The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 5 July 1973
Twelfth Year - No. 586 - By air

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Prague Treaty is no victory or defeat for either side

In 1929 when Josef Pekar, the grand old man of Czech historians, attempted to interpret the history of his country, he came to the conclusion that painful upheavals bring people to their senses.

Ever since this resigned, yet optimistic vision of the future by the great Prague historian, who is currently being reread by his fellow-countrymen there has been no lack of painful upheavals in Czechoslovakia.

Germany, the cause of the most fateful of these blows, has likewise undergone painful upheavals as a result of which it has forfeited its national unity.

Have people on both sides come to their senses, as Pekar hoped? The treaty now signed by the Foreign Ministers of Czechoslovakia and the Federal Republic allows of an optimistic answer to this query.

It does not represent a victory or a defeat for one side or the other. It is a compromise that does, moreover, steer clear of a number of issues. Agreement was only possible by virtue of both sides meeting each other half-way and forgoing immediate, perfect, all-round solutions.

It represents appropriate progress and indeed a partial conclusion of Bonn's policy of detente in Europe.

The 1938 Munich Agreement, which paved the way for Hitler's division of Czechoslovakia, is condemned in the treaty as the result of a threat to use force and, within certain limitations, declared to be null and void.

This does not mean that it was null and void from the moment pen was put to paper, though, which Prague demanded but Bonn was unable to concede, if only because it was not a bilateral agreement and this country could only declare it to be null and void in respect of repercussions on relations between Bonn and Prague.

Incidentally, the Prague negotiators were also anxious to secure limitations to the declaration of nullity and invalidity. The Czechs succeeded in ensuring that certain provisos applied to the war and occupation years.

Former Czech citizens of German nationality note with dissatisfaction that Hitler's use of force against Czechoslovakia is condemned but not the expulsion of the Germans once the war was over.

The non-mention of the events that occured in 1945 amounts to non-acknowledgement of claims by people who are now citizens of the Federal Republic against their native country.

The possibility of lodging claims of this kind is, however, generally precluded in comparable pre-war agreements such as the German-Polish liquidation agreement of 1929, which specified that all claims for compensation by Germans no longer domiciled in Poland were to be lodged solely with the Reich government in Berlin.

After the last war Bonn, it will be recalled made compensation awards to refugees.

This country's negotiators can compliment themselves on having incorporated in the treaty the stipulation that it forms no legal basis for material claims by Czechoslovakia, its citizens and institutions, against this country. In other words, this country is under no obligation to make reparations payments.

A further feather in the negotiators' cap is that West Berlin has been included as within the terms of reference of the current agreements.

Issues relating to repatriation of divided families remain a moot point, but in view of the few Germans left in Czechoslovakia this is of less significance than it would be, say, in the case of the Germans still living in Poland.

Only a general mention but a promising one is made of the prospect of economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other cooperation. In this the other side is at least as interested as this country, and the possibilities represent a bona fide chance of overcoming differences of opinion that may yet beset relations.

The treaty with Prague in no way affects Czechoslovakia's membership of the Warsaw Pact and Comecon. Certain sections of the population may have been keen on this idea during the 1968 "Prague Spring"; it can be stated with certainty, however, that pressures to this effect were never brought to bear from this side of the Bohemian forests.

Democracy can as little be exported as Communism can. Rapprochement and cooperation with this country's communist neighbours is only possible within the framework of rapprochement with Eastern Europe as a whole. We can hardly expect fresh ties between Prague and Bonn to be established, say, at East Berlin's expense.

It is hardly surprising that the Polish Party leader, Edward Gierek, who is to visit Bonn later this year, has first travelled to East Berlin to negotiate details of intensified cooperation between his country and the GDR.

On the other hand Budapest and Sofia are now more likely to follow in Prague's footsteps in establishing cordial relations with Bonn, particularly as next to no problems beset relations between Bonn and these two.

Immanuel Birnbaum

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 June 1973)

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Bohuslav Chnoupek, Czech Foreign Minister with Walter Scheel at Bonn airport on 19 June

(Photos: dpa)

Brandt-Pompidou meeting

The Franco-Federal Republic summit proved a success after all, but not, it must be added, an unqualified success for Herr Brandt and M. Pompidou.

The two sides came closer together because both were determined to do so, but this does not by a long chalk mean that all differences of opinion have been settled.

To take but one exemple, the two sides still differ as to the approach Europe should adopt to President Nixon when he visits Brussels this autumn.

The Chancellor and the President reassured one another on the first evening of their talks that they had got off to a better start than sceptical journalists had forecast.

Certainly it was evident from the start that the Germans and the French were intent on exchanging views on major aspects of European developments in a frank and down-to-Earth manner the like of which has not been seen for some time.

This atmosphere persisted throughout the two days of talks, leading to a briskness and nonchalance in all exchanges and, on two occasions, to what amounted to a European question time at Ministerial level.

Throughout the talks a recurring theme was the timetable on the basis of which European Union is to be established by 1980 as proposed by President Pompidou at the Paris summit of the Nine.

Then there was the issue of a common European approach to not only the United States and the Gatt talks but also, on a long-term basis, towards defence policy.

The two sides have drawn closer together. France talked in terms clearly more flexible than hitherto. Bonn and Paris agreed that Europe must adopt a joint stand in the forthcoming Gatt talks with the United States and that a common energy policy must be evolved.

Even now a uniform security policy will prove a tougher nut to crack, though.

(Die Welt, 23 June 1973)

Chancellor Brandt and President Pompidou at Schloss Gymnich on 21 June

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Brezhnev-Nixon talks unlike previous US-USSR contacts

Leonid Brezhnev, the second Soviet leader to cross the Atlantic, took care not to make a song and dance about his arrival in the United States. Was his pussy-footing deliberately intended to underline the difference between himself and his ebullient, vociferous predecessor?

Regardless of Mr Brezhnev's intentions it was evident that not a mere fourteen years but an entire epoch separates the summit talks at Camp David between Nixon and Brezhnev now and Eisenhower and Khrushchev in 1959.

"I am not here as a beggar but as the representative of a great people," Nikita Khrushchev told a gathering of US businessmen in New York in September 1959.

He continued in an even more pointed fashion, telling his audience, "You may rest assured that the Soviet Union will hold its own in economic competition. It will draw level with you and overtake you."

Khrushchev's visit to the United States may have taken place against the background of "peaceful coexistence," the sounding-out of prospects of intensified economic and technological cooperation between "the two countries in the world that possess real power."

But on the quiet the Soviet Union was unshaken by either scruples or doubts in its firm conviction that it would stand head and shoulders above the United States by 1970 and then proceed to "bury capitalism."

There could be no mistaking the discord in this study in coexistence between the United States and the Soviet Union. Hardly had Nikita Khrushchev returned home from America but the mark he had made was swept by the chill winds of cold war.

The negative spirit of the age proved more powerful than the spirit of Camp David, which gave up the ghost before ever getting off the ground. The summit dialogue with Moscow commenced by President Eisenhower came to a dead end, hamstrung by irreconcilable interests and rivalry between the two systems.

This state of affairs was remedied neither by the rock-hard Vienna tête-à-tête of 1961 between Nikita Khrushchev and John F. Kennedy nor by the uneventful encounter between President Johnson and Soviet Premier Kosygin in Glassboro in the summer of 1967.

Relations between the two great powers retained the characteristics of a duel rather than those of a duet.

Richard Nixon and Leonid Brezhnev have an easier time of it than their predecessors in this respect. They are not handicapped by the debris of, say, the 1959 Foreign Ministers' conference, which utterly failed to bridge the deadlock on Berlin and Germany, the two major issues of the day.

Their talks do not take place against the background of a Paris summit conference that has failed to come about, as in 1961, or against that of two red-hot crises in the Middle East and Vietnam, as in 1967.

On American Soil, free from the oppressive heritage of the Cold War and, as far as can be judged, with no new trouble spots in the offing, the President and the General Secretary are able to continue the work jointly commenced in Moscow in May 1972, the forging of a new relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union.

It is based on strategic stalemate and the mutual inability to survive a nuclear war embodied in the Salt agreements. It does not hold forth the prospect of an end to US-Soviet rivalry but it does promise more lasting cooperation and less spiralling confrontation.

Mr Brezhnev's American connection has already been consolidated by a number of factors. What is new is that Moscow now seems prepared to pay a price for detente with Washington.

In the characteristic Soviet style of old Mr Khrushchev sought to bring about his *relaxation of tension at the other side's* expense only and without the slightest concession on his own part.

On Berlin, on the mining of North Vietnamese ports on the eve of President Nixon's visit to Moscow and on the abolition of the tax payable by Jewish emigrants prior to his own visit to the United States Mr Brezhnev has shown himself to be willing to compromise.

America as currently portrayed on Soviet propaganda is certainly a revelation. The erstwhile Ugly American is no longer in evidence, Watergate is conspicuous by its absence and even the bloodsuckers and warmongers of Wall Street, old friends indeed, have been restyled bankers for peace.

The extent to which the Soviet Union has opened its doors to its arch-rival is staggering. Over the past twelve months more agreements have been concluded, ranging from Pepsi Cola to petroleum, from joint research on the ocean bed to joint ventures into space, and more American businessmen have journeyed to and from Moscow than at any time since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1933.

The other factor that sounds a new note is the style of General Secretary Brezhnev's US visit. Khrushchev stormed from coast to coast, boasting, uttering veiled threats and combining popular diplomacy and political tourism. Brezhnev keeps to the political business in hand, steering clear of folklore and show business.

But are coexistence and cooperation between America and Russia more than skin-deep? Does Mr Brezhnev seriously

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mean what the says? How permanent will his detente policy prove to be?

The two Superpowers' interest in extending cooperation and putting a damper on mutual rivalry increased as their worldwide Messianic targets came a cropper and trouble mounted on their respective home fronts.

The United States, representing the free world, was disillusioned by Vietnam, the run on the dollar and social problems that proved impossible of solution.

The Soviet Union, which under Khrushchev still felt that as the standard-bearer of world Communism it was within a stone's throw of final victory, had its illusions dispelled by the break with China, an increasing number of rifts within its sphere of influence and growing economic insufficiency defying attempts to reach a single-handed solution.

The Big Two have, then, been drawn closer together not by their strength but by their weaknesses. Their new joint approach is based on the realisation that there are limits to their power.

The conclusions recently reached in this context by Soviet US expert Arbatov as regards the United States likewise bear witness to the current Kremlin leadership's realisation of the situation obaining in respect of the Soviet Union.

Firstly, he noted, the days of successful international policing actions and swift successes in small-scale wars are over.

Secondly, further increases in military might and arms stockpiles no longer result in an increase in political power.

Thirdly, the international role and infuence of both the United States and the Soviet Union are accordingly dependent less on their respective output of missiles, divisions or international political muscle-flexing than on their ability to cope with political challenges at home. The main criteria of long-term US-Soviet detente exist and are themselves long-term in nature because the respective weaknesses on which they are based cannot be eliminated overnight.

This is what Soviet America-watcher Arbatov means when he says that the current trend towards relaxation of tension is firmly entrenched in objective realities and attributable to a fundamental new inter-relationship of forces in the international arena.

This is not merely an academic exercise; it represents a sober assessment of the situation, with an admixture of ideology. It forms the basis of Leonid Brezhnev's entire detente strategy, in the framework of which he is offering the West and the United States long-term economic interdependence and guarantees of coexistence transcending by far the renunciation of nuclear confrontation which was as far as Nikita Khrushchev was prepared to go.

Mr Brezhnev has both long-term intentions and long-term targets, but is he genuinely in a position to put them into practice and render his strategy operative?

The crucial question is not whether America is better equipped to cope with innovations and dialectical jerk's but whether Russia with its domestic discomforts is in a position to come to terms with the new relationship.

The Soviet Union will need to make not only foreign policy but also domestic concessions. Sweeping economic reforms will shake the foundations of established power structures and comprehensive arms cuts will make mincemeat of traditional security concepts and put the dogmatists' backs up.

So far Mr Brezhnev has managed to circumvent both steps, but neither will be avoidable in the long run if Moscow really does decide in favour of detente in the shape of large-scale economic cooperation.

The Soviet Union will never be able to bridge its modernisation gap solely by means of imported technology and on borrowed money, particularly since Washington will prove too hard a bargainer to live entirely up to the Soviet Union's big deal expectations.

The acid test of Mr Brezhnev's relaxation of tension has yet to come, and its outcome will determine both his fate and the extent of the new relationship between Moscow and Washington.

Whatever happens, the two powers will maintain a special bilateral relationship of international significance. This is something on which the Europeans can bank.

The prospects for ties between the Big Two in the seventies have been outlined by George Kennan as follows: "Somewhere between the intimacy we cannot reach and the war we do not want to wage there lies a midfield of far safer and more pleasant relations than hitherto." This is a prospect that ought to suit Europe too.

Andreas Kohlschütter

(Die Zeit, 22 June 1973)

Permanent Salt agreement not far off

One era is coming to a close, another is beginning. Next year the United States and the Soviet Union propose to sign an unlimited treaty limiting their respective strategic nuclear weapons to a balanced level.

The decision has been made by President Nixon and General Secretary Loenid Brezhnev. The ball is now in the court of the diplomats and military gathered around the Salt negotiating table.

What they have in mind is a qualitative and quantitative limitation in weapons of mass destruction followed by further reductions. The details will prove tricky of course.

Judged in terms of political practice in the sixties, though, the distance already covered is considerable. It is not long since American politicians sought to outdo out the Soviet Union by means of the arms race, which, incidentally, they did fairly satisfactorily.

But how much did the exercise cost? The United States was the first to build the atom bomb, the first to have the hydrogen bomb, to have intercontinental ballistic missiles, nuclear submarines, strategic bombers and nuclear aircraft carriers. The Soviet Union has steadily followed suit.

The permanent Salt agreement now in the offing will not entirely preclude further nuclear arms races. The Nixon-Brezhnev agreement expressly allows modernisation of arms, although there are to be certain limitations to bringing stockpiles up to the minute.

The historic turning-point, though, is that neither of the two superpowers is now intent on establishing an illusory supremacy, Each acknowledges the security requirements of the other and is keen on containing arms expenditure.

In Clause Six of the agreement both sides also declare their readiness to conclude additional separate treaties in addition to the projected Salt agreement. Above all this can conceivably mean an agreement on banning underground nuclear tests.

The progress achieved in the second round of Nixon-Brezhnev talks is self-evident, the two powers having contracted in a second agreement to cooperate in peaceful exploitation of atomic energy for the next ten years.

The first item on this particular agenda is controlled nuclear fusion. In plasma research the Soviet Union is on a par with the United States. What could make greater sense than the two joining forces for the transition from thermonuclear hydrogen devices to the peaceful utilisation of controlled nuclear fusion?

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 23 June 1973)

The German Tribune

Publisher: Friedrich Reinecke. Editor-in-Chief: Otto Heinz. Editor: Alexander Anthony. English language sub-editor: Geoffrey Penny. Distribution Manager: Georgine von Platen. Advertising Manager: Peter Boeckmann.

Friedrich Reinecke Verlag GmbH, 23 Schöne Aussicht, Hamburg 76. Tel.: 2 28 51, Telex: 02 14733. Bonn bureau: Konrad Kadlubowski, 56 Adenauerallee, 53 Bonn. Tel.: 22 61 53. Telex 08 86398.

Advertising rates list No. 10 — Annual subscription DM 25.

Printed by Krögers Buch- und Verlagsdruckerei, Hamburg-Blankenese. Distributed in the USA by: MASS MAILINGS, Inc. 540 West 24 Street, New York, N.Y. 10011.

All articles which THE GERMAN TRIBUNE reprint are published in cooperation with the editorial staffs of leading newspapers of the Federal Republic of Germany. They are complete translations of the original text, in no way abridged nor editorially redrafted. THE GERMAN TRIBUNE also publishes a Quarterly Review and a Supplement, articles selected from German periodicals.

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HOME AFFAIRS

Budget passed quietly

The Bundestag has always made heavy weather of budget discussions. Traditional demands that these debates should take the form of a basic catalogue of the financial state of affairs of the country and should set the framework for the next term of office of the government have always been met with an expression of the impossibility of such aims. Individual specific facts cannot be checked accurately and legal requirements mean that no new accent can be placed on the rough outlines of the budget as published.

The noise of battle that rang through earlier budget debates was often quite out of proportion to the concrete substance of the subject matter, and last year the budget was ratified so late – in fact not till the end of the year in question – that it did not serve the government at all as an aid to mapping out finances. Its whole purpose was destroyed when it was used as the instrument by which premature elections were forced on the Bundestag.

It is therefore of great benefit to the country that this year's budget discussion passed off without being artificially blown up out of all proportion and without reaching any real climax. It was passed quickly and quietly.

It seems as if we are seeing the guiding hand of the new Opposition leader Karl Carstens already, in the former Chancellor and Economic Affairs Minister Ludwig Erhard was given a chance to issue a warning against the process of hollowing out the free-market economy

His suggestion that the proceeds of the stabilisation surcharge on tax should be "put through the paper-shredder" has a decisive aim in mind, even though it may be controversial.

The central and Federal state government are far more concerned about the key to the distribution of this surcharge, which is a main point of contention, than the later distribution of the funds, which will serve to heat up the economy.

The fact that the CDU/CSU has rejected nearly all the government's budgets has not been because of any malice on their part, but simply because an Opposition usually expresses its discontent at government policies by rejecting that government's budget.

It is a hint on domestic and foreign policy scores and an offer of cooperation that has made the Opposition renounce this policy in the case of the defence budget. Opposition criticism can only take on an air of importance if it protects itself against allegations of being the perpetual denier.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 20 June 1973)



Egon Bahr, Federal Republic Minister without portfolio and Michael Kohl, GDR State Secretary (left), exchanging deeds of ratification of the Basic Treaty in Bonn on 20 June (Photo: dpa)

Constitutional court gains prestige from unanimous verdict

With its rejection of the second appeal by the Federal State of Bavaria for an interim injunction against the Basic Treaty between the Federal Republic and German Democratic Republic the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe cleared the way for ratification documents to be exchanged with the GDR. This was a decision which the Court did not take lightly.

The deliberations of the Court judges were made amid a situation of conflict in which the government had become embroiled.

Rejection of the interim injunction, which would have meant a last-minute postponement of the exchange of the deeds of ratification, could, in certain circumstances, bind the government to a treaty that could possibly force them to infringe the provisions of Basic Law.

On the other hand if the government had been forced in these circumstances to go against constitutional provisions the inter-State conflict that could arise would have had to be remedied by an amendment to Basic Law. Alteration of the contents of the Treaty would no longer be in the hands of the Bonn government alone.

The Constitutional Court Judges may have been motivated by the consideration that the Bonn government could not in any circumstances find a reason for excusing itself from observance of the provisions of Basic Law.

The Court's decision was obviously prompted by considerations of what would happen if there were a delay to the exchange of ratification documents. The Bonn government was not able to prove all the ramifications of the detrimental consequences it claimed would arise from non-ratification, but on the other hand Bavaria's representatives were not able to put convincingly their case that any such detrimental outcome could be repaired without lasting damage to the State.

In this respect the government's arguments were put across more convincingly than those of Bavaria. This was clearly indicated by the first rejection of Bavaria's appeal for an interim injunction. This, likewise, was unanimous, but only because Bonn was not able to say exactly when the exchange of ratification documents should take place, and therefore there was no apparent "danger in delay".

On that occasion four judges additionally expressed the dangers of impeding the Basic Treaty. And the way the government pleaded its case was enough to convince the other judges.

One of the arguments was already well known. It would only be possible for the Federal Republic to gain admission to the United Nations simultaneously with the GDR if the exchange of ratification documents took place on 20 June. For at the session of the Security Council due for the next day the decision on the entry of the German States was to take place.

Delaying the Basic Treaty until, say, 31 July – the proposed day on which the Constitutional Court would make its final decision one way or the other about the validity of the Treaty in Basic Law – would have led to the grotesque situation of the GDR's presumably being accepted into the United Nations while the Federal Republic was left on the doorstep.

The unanimous decision by the Federal Constitutional Court has added greatly to its prestige. The suspicion had become widespread that the judges based their decisions on their own political leanings and not so much according to the letter of the Law. This dangerous assumption has been killed off by the unanimous vote.

All the more moral weight can be given to the verdict in its main point. Even if this verdict can no longer hold up the course of events, since the Federal Constitutional Court will no longer be responsible after the exchange of ratification documents and only an international court can then step in, this verdict will be of major significance in Inter-State relationships and for the legal position of the Federal Republic at negotiations for treaties that will follow in the wake of this one.

Hans-Jochen Zenker

(Nordwest Zeitung, 19 June 1973)

FDP Bavarian group meets in peace in Regensburg

No other word was used so often and so gladly at the meeting of the Bavarian wing of the FDP as "consolidation", since that is what the party has now achieved. Pride at this achievement is quite understandable.

The FDP's Bavarian group made headlines for many years for the wrong reasons – a bitter trench warfare between the two wings, which almost crippled the group politically. But today harmony reigns in FDP Bavaria; and as General Secretary Flach said in Regensburg, he is "simply delighted" at the peace.

It goes without saying that in the past three years the basic political standpoints and the vastly differing characters of the members of the Bavarian group have not changed drastically and swept aside all the fuel that stoked the fires of conflict. What has changed is their insight into the political necessities.

Such basically different people from the point of view of temperament as Josef Ertl and Hildegard Hamm-Brücher have found something like a common denominator.

Ertl, and more importantly the hard core of his old following, have become more or less confirmed champions of the Bonn Coalition, and Hildegard Hamm-Brücher never misses an opportunity at internal party gatherings to draw the demarcation line to the left and to call on the younger members of the party not to fall victim to "Juso mania".

These Bavarian Young Democrats for their part, whose colleagues in other Federal State groups often have little in squarely in the bosom of the party, and

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CDU's alternative wealth plan

Competition is good for business. Following the programmes for wealth policy put forward by the SPD and FDP, allowing the workers to have a share in the means of production and profits of industry, the CDU has now come up with its formula for the accumulation of capital in private hands.

The Burgbacher Plan, which provided for a separate "investment wage" on top of the normal working wage, and which has been on the stocks for many years now, was no longer considered a satisfactory alternative to the plans put forward by the other parties. The commission on "wealth and capital accumulation" of the CDU/CSU Bundestag group has, therefore, now come up with a more comprehensive concept.

While the SPD and FDP want the workers to share collectively in the growing means of production via a fund, the "union" parties' programme proposes "personal participation of the labour force in the profits and means of production of industry and commerce."

Although the members of the commission were agreed on this aim they could not reach agreement on the best method of arriving at it.

Most of them were of the opinion that the worker should be a partner to the source of the capital and have a right to a share of "residue profits" (after deduction of the employers' salaries and a premium to offset risk).

The conservative minority, on the other hand, stuck to the view that workers should only have a right to a share in profits if they were partners in the company and thereby shared the burden of risk.

This and other points that have been a source of conflict on the commission will have to be discussed by the party conference in the autumn in Hamburg. If the conference manages to thwart those who have not yet realised that capital accumulation schemes are one of the most important matters in domestic policy today and decides in favour of the commission's findings the CDU can praise itself for having found a convincing alternative to the plans of the government Coalition. But there will still be some thrust and parry over details.

For the moment the "union" parties are still sitting on those uncomfortable opposition benches and have no chance of turning good intentions into the law of the land. But the SPD, too, will not be able to put its plans into action over night. The growing opposition of the FDP to the guidelines drawn up by the SPD at its congress in Hanover means that a swift decision is not likely.

The Free Democrats protest most strongly at the massive accumulation of capital in a fund, the lack of self-determination being granted workers involved in the scheme, which is regarded as underestimating their maturity, and the danger that the fund would become a power tool of the unions. It is to be hoped that when the Coalition gets down to discussing this subject the FDP will not weaken at the knees over these points.

It is also to be hoped that employers will use the time remaining to make their own suggestions for capital accumulation in the hands of their employees, suggestions that can be taken seriously, that is.

But even if individual firms – such as Braun Melsungen, recently – continue to devise voluntary schemes for participation of their workers in profits the group of progressive employers is still too small to influence the proceedings. Businessmen should, therefore, pull up their socks and take the chance of utilising the breathing space allowed them by the Coalition's hesitancy. It may be their last chance.

Michael Jungblut

(Die Zeit, 22 June 1973)

■ CRIME

Legislation lags behind modern methods of crime detection

"This apparatus is sensitive and temperamental," Horst Herold, head of the Federal Criminal Investigation Bureau since 7 September 1971, told journalists. "Approach it with due reverence – this is the brain of the country's police force."

Herold has introduced in the police force a good deal of scientific and technological equipment since moving into the new six-storey building in Wiesbaden. The sensitive super-brain is the most impressive.

This apparatus is in actual fact the Criminal Investigation Bureau's wanted list, containing details of no fewer than 170,000 untraced offenders or persons required as witnesses.

The computer only needs nine seconds to transmit names and other data to the 54 police departments equipped with what are known as terminal monitors. So far the network covers an area stretching from Frankfurt airport to the French border between Kehl and Saarbrücken.

Herold aims to set up a network of 150 stations covering the whole country from Munich to Kiel and Berlin to Düsseldorf. Even that is only provisional. He believes that a European crime centre will one day be set up as the climax of the electronic fight against crime.

Two monitors at the headquarters revealed just what the computer is capable of. It took only nine seconds to learn that the police wanted 141 Müllers, 47 Zimmermanns and one Freudenreich, the latter for breaking and entering.

The computer is also able to supply the 63 pseudonyms employed by confidence tricksters wanted by the police everywhere from Mindelheim to Montevideo and point out that among eleven Lindens wanted throughout the world one is a prominent armoured security van robber from Munich.

Herold was once one of the Criminal Investigation Department's most violent critics. Since taking it over, he has speeded up the modernisation programme and installed much new technical equipment, ranging from the electronic carbon traces measuring apparatus designed to examine bullet wounds to the "grid microscope" costing a quarter of a million Marks which magnifies objects up to one hundred thousand times their original size and automatically conducts analyses of physical structures.

This super-microscope recently helped track down a Düsseldorf safe-breaker by means of fossilised Silurian algae. "It was all terribly easily," Herold explains. "This type of fossil is found in quarries with other stone and is used to fill the gap between the steel plates of a safe. The dust in the offender's jacket, though invisible to the naked eye, became incriminating material when examined under the microscope."

Despite his collection of technical marvels, Herold is not particularly happy and he does not hesitate to explain why. The laws under which the Criminal Investigation Bureau must operate no longer correspond to the electronic and technological methods into which millions of Marks have been pumped.

"The word directions only occurs once in the recently-approved law amending the powers of the Criminal Investigation Bureau and even then it appears in a context that is of no use to us," he complains.

The new law provides the Criminal Investigation Bureau with extended powers and a position of priority in the investigation of a number of types of crime. Herold claims that this only applies to a number of arbitrarily chosen crimes and criticises it as being a compromise between the central government and the Federal states, formulated by politicians who evidently know little about criminology.

"I consider our central function to be the provision of information," Herold states. We have been fobbed off with cases of organised arms deals, counterfeiting and crimes involving narcotics, as



Horst Herold (Photo: dpa)

long as investigation has to be conducted abroad."

But where should the line be drawn? How are the powers of the local police departments and the Criminal Investigation Bureau to be given exact definition in every single case?

"If only we had been told to smash international gangs, we would have had clearly defined powers," Herold states. "But international gangs always operate according to the current market situation and choose crimes that should prove most profitable. Today they could be stealing jewelery, tomorrow organising the white slave trade or forging pictures. The powers granted by the new law will only involve us in friction with the Federal states' police departments."

The Criminal Investigation Bureau requires full powers in the technological sector and in the supply of information but these are the very points ignored by the latest legislation.

Arguments between the Bureau and representatives of the local police departments about checking mistakes and the computer's ability to control itself led to the birth of new ideologies, Herold claimed ironically. *Johann Freudenreich*

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 June 1973)

Spies in the Federal Republic – Minister Genscher reports

A Federal Intelligence Service report recently published in Bonn by Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher claims that the growing number of official representatives from Eastern Europe in the Federal Republic has also led to an increase in the number of "legal" communist secret agents.

The proportion of representatives of Eastern European embassies or trade delegations working for intelligence services ranges from six to forty per cent. In one case it amounts to as much as 65 per cent of the total personnel.

The intelligence service report also states that espionage by Eastern European agents in the Federal Republic has become easier as a result of detente. The public attitude to the Soviet Union has changed and there is increased readiness for franker talks.

This has influenced the way communist intelligence services operate and the recruiting methods they use. Eastern European agents, especially the Russians, are no longer employing cloak and dagger tactics.

Instead, their embassies and trade delegations in the Federal Republic now concentrate on taking advantage of all the opportunities at their disposal by establishing as many contacts as possible and picking their brains without revealing that the information could be of use to intelligence.

Genscher pointed out that the Federal Republic is still a favourite field of activity for communist espionage. Most spying was conducted in the political, economic and military sectors.

The German Democratic Republic plays a leading role, its proportion of intelligence work conducted in the Federal Republic is about eighty per cent of the total. The GDR is followed by the intelligence service of Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. The main targets were persons who had resettled in the Federal Republic or travellers to this country.

The report welcomes the rise last year in the number of persons who give themselves up voluntarily after being recruited by an Eastern European intelligence service and those who play along with these intelligence services while establishing contact with the Federal Intelligence Service.

Genscher appealed to those persons still caught up in espionage to come clean. These agents would then have a greater chance of remaining unpunished or receiving only a short sentence.

Turning to the internal security of the Federal Republic, Genscher stressed that political extremists and politically motivated criminals posed no serious danger. Rightwing extremism continued to decrease, he claimed, and the extreme left-wing groups had had no successes worth mentioning.

The only exception was in the university sector, he added, where orthodox communist organisations had been able to increase their influence. It was becoming definitely clearer that a number of Maoist groups, especially the anarchist KPD, were taking over the role of leadership in cases of violence.

The intelligence service report claims that the extreme right-wing National Democratic Party only has some 14,500 members, compared with 28,000 in 1969. The membership of the extreme left-wing DKP – the Communist Party – on the other hand rose from 34,000 to 36,000 in the course of twelve months.

Genscher stressed that the DKP had confirmed its belief in the revolutionary ideology of Marxism-Leninism in 1972. The party's unconstitutional aims continued to exist therefore. But the Minister stated that he was not currently considering a ban on the DKP. The ministers of the Interior in all Federal states agreed with him on this issue.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 16 June 1973)

Crime rate continues to soar

The Federal Republic's crime rate [...] again last year. The 1972 [...] statistics recently published by [...] Ministry of the Interior reveal that [...] of 2,572,530 crimes and offences [...] committed, a rise of 5.4 per cent [...] 1971. Larceny amounted to 66.2 per [...] of the total, compared to 65.9 per [...] the previous year.

Larceny therefore accounts for two [...] of every three offences. A total [...] 793,323 cases of serious larceny [...] recorded in 1971. This total [...] 907,889 cases in 1972.

As many as 2,729 cases of murder [...] manslaughter were recorded in [...] compared to 2,464 the previous year. [...] number of murders and attem[pted] murders increased by fourteen per c[ent] last year.

Minister of the Interior Hans-Diet[rich] Genscher pointed out that the number [...] cases solved in 1972 had increased by [...] per cent over the previous year. [...] police solved 1,195,024 cases [...] arrested 1,039,078 suspects, an in[crease] of 3.8 per cent over 1971. A total of [...] per cent of the suspects were adults, [...] 34.3 per cent minors, of whom 6.9 per [...] were children.

There was a rise of 1.6 per cent [...] year in crimes involving narcotics. [...] proportion of children suspected [...] narcotics offences dropped for the f[irst] time since 1966.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 13 June [...])

One in ten is a shop-lifter, security organisation claims

One person in ten in this country [...] shop-lifter, according to an [...] shop-lifting organisation set up by [...] nine largest retail food chains with [...] annual turnover of two milliard Marks.

The organisation, meeting in Stutt[gart] calculated that retailers in the Fe[deral] Republic lost one milliard Marks' [...] of goods a year through shop-lifting.

The organisation has now set up [...] bank in Munich to record the n[ames of] any shop-lifter caught at the bran[ches of] one of the member firms. The data [...] will help stores track down cust[omers] who make a frequent habit [...] shop-lifting.

Customers caught shop-lifting will [...] required to pay a "service charge" [...] twenty Marks. They will then be li[able to] prosecution. The organisation rep[orted] that proceedings were started in [...] forty per cent of the cases.

Statistics issued by the Crim[inal] Investigation Bureau reveal that sh[op-]lifting lost its tag as a specif[ically] feminine crime between 1963 and 1[...] and that more and more men are b[eing] caught.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 May 1[...])

International crime

International arms dealers, [...] feiters and narcotic rings operating [...] the Federal Republic will be trac[ked] down more quickly and effectively [...] future. Investigations into crimes of [...] type will automatically be conducted [...] a centralised basis from the headqua[rters] of the Federal Criminal Investiga[tion] Bureau in Wiesbaden.

The Bundestag and Bundesrat rec[ently] approved an amendment to this effe[ct] Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Gens[cher] describing it as a further contribution [...] the improvement of the fight a[gainst] crime in the Federal Republic.

The Federal Criminal Investiga[tion] Bureau will also be responsible [...] protecting the Federal Repub[lic's] supreme constitutional institutions [...] foreign guests invited by the govern[ment].

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 16 June 1[...])

■ LAW REFORM

Revised laws involving sexual behaviour approved

The new sexual offences act is the first of the Bills left over from the last legislative period to be passed by the new Bundestag. Despite differences concerning the removal of the ban on pornography (only 'hard' pornography is still illegal), there was widespread agreement among all parties on the basic principles of the new legislation.

It was generally felt that the State should not interfere in the sexual practices of individuals but should only protect the community from the social harm resulting from certain sexual conduct. But there was a considerable difference of opinion over what exactly is harmful to society and what can be accepted.

Bigamy and incest for instance are still illegal, as is rape. The amendment of the age at which protection stops for "persons in a dependent relationship" will be of considerable practical importance. But a good deal of discrimination has been displayed on this issue. Abusing an official position to perform sexual acts with a prisoner still remains punishable irrespective of age.

As far as schools and training centres are concerned, the age of protection extends to sixteen instead of 21. Sexual relations with a person in a dependent relationship continue to be punishable when the person is sixteen or seventeen.

Far-reaching amendments have been made to the laws governing "pandering". Sanctions will now be restricted to persons running an establishment on a commercial basis in which prostitution is conducted and the prostitutes kept in position of personal and economic dependence.

The law will also punish persons letting a flat to under-eighteens for the purposes of prostitution or letting a flat to any individual while encouraging prostitution or living off the immoral earnings.

This is an attempt to protect prostitutes from the pressure of pimps and enable them to lead their own lives. The new law continues to look upon the practice of living off immoral earnings as antisocial behaviour that encourages crime. Providing engaged couples or married men and women with the opportunity of performing sexual acts is no longer punishable. Sanctions will only be applied when one of the parties is under sixteen and even then punishment will lapse when the offence was committed by a parent, guardian or a third party acting with the permission of the parent or guardian.

The Opposition raised considerable objections to this section of the new sexual offences act. It saw the provision of facilities for married men or women to perform adulterous sexual acts as antisocial behaviour calculated to endanger the institutions of both marriage and family. The legislature must not tolerate wife-swopping, it claimed.

The Opposition also raised objections against the so-called "educator's privilege" whereby youth camp leaders can, with the parents' permission, provide fourteen and fifteen-year-olds with the opportunity of performing sexual acts. The Opposition did not want organised sexual contacts of this type to be legally tolerated or encouraged as part of what is described as modern social education.

The new legislation only punishes homosexuality when relations exist between an adult of over eighteen and a minor under eighteen. But sanctions will not be carried out when the offender is under 21 and where blackmail attempts play a role. *Dieter von König*

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 12 June 1973)

FDP Bavarian group meeting

Continued from page 3

common with the main body of the FDP, regard their home as being fairly and squarely in the bosom of the party, and they pursue their policies with such skill that the Federal state Chairman, who certainly does not subscribe to their ideals, did not miss the opportunity in Regensburg of thanking the party youngsters for their good relationship with the party which made coordination possible.

Even the alliances that were struck up at the elections for the deputy Federal state Chairman crossed demarcation lines within the group ranging from Ertl to Hamm-Brücher, and the reasons behind them may be more personal than political.

Even the differences of opinion that arose at the conference over how precise a coalition statement should be issued should not be over-estimated in these circumstances. In the end the statement went against Ertl's wishes and made a clear rejection of the CSU.

However much Ertl emphasises the independence of his party he is still quite clear that for the Bavarian FDP the only possible alliance is with the SPD – that is if the question should ever become of topical importance again.

Moreover, it is one of Ertl's outstanding qualities as party leader in Bavaria that even matters on which he has taken a firm stand and a clear line in the past will be shoved into the background by him if he sees that his basic conviction is not able to drum up a majority in the party, and he will console himself on such occasions with the acclaim that he receives simply as a highly respected person.

Of course this kind of pragmatism is all very well, nipping potential differences of opinion in the bud by appealing at the crucial moment to the agricultural sector, but it cannot serve the FDP forever to avoid hammering out its conflicts.

Herbert Riehl-Heyse

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 18 June 1973)

Bundestag approves revised adoption regulations

The Bundestag unanimously approved legislation making adoption easier at its session on 14 June. The law now goes before the Bundesrat, or Upper House.

The new law is not the complete reform of legislation governing children and adoption that was expected. It is more a partial reform. It is still not certain when the Bundestag will turn to the complete reform of the adoption laws. Justice Minister Gerhard Jahn plans to submit the reform bill in the spring of 1974.

The CDU/CSU Bundestag group has already stated what sections of the adoption laws it believes should be amended in a motion put forward by Dietrich Rollmann.

The partial reform of the adoption laws approved on 14 June brings two main changes:

1. The minimum age of parents entitled to adopt a child is to be reduced from 35 to 25. This should ensure that as many children as possible who are unable to be reared by their own parents for one reason or another will grow up in a family. Until 1961 only persons over fifty were allowed to adopt children. The reduced limit of 25 is not rigid and can be waived in exceptional cases.

2. The partial reform provides a better legal basis for replacing the permission of the adoptive child's real parents by the recommendation of a special court responsible for parenthood and guardianship. Before 1961 the parents' permission was the decisive factor. The solution then adopted, confirmed by the Federal Constitutional Court as compatible to Basic Law in 1968 after many years of controversy, proved to be too limited in practice. That is why the new law has amended the provisions of the 1961 law.

(Die Welt, 16 June 1973)

Divorce law reform bill given a first reading

New legislation governing marriage, divorce and families recently came before the Bundestag for its first reading. The new law will amend certain features of existing legislation.

1. Divorce Law

In future a divorce will be granted when a marriage has broken down. The old guilt principle will no longer apply. One of three conditions has to be met if a court is to annul a marriage on the grounds of marital breakdown.

a) The partner claiming that the marriage has broken down must provide conclusive evidence of this breakdown before the court. In cases of this type the new law will not always be able to prevent the washing of dirty linen in public.

b) If both partners want a divorce and do not want to discuss the state of their marriage in public, the court can grant an annulment when they have been living apart for at least twelve months.

c) If only one of the partners wants a divorce, the marriage can be annulled after three year's separation though the other party may put forward evidence of the fact that the marriage has not broken down.

There is however a hardship clause. A marriage will not be annulled when the partner refusing a divorce can put forward extraordinary circumstances justifying the continued existence of the marriage. Economic arguments will not however be considered.

2. Maintenance Law

Economic need and not guilt will in future be the criterion of whether or not maintenance must be paid. As a rule both partners will be expected to be in a position to pursue employment unless they are sick, old or have children to bring up. A special clause allows each partner to claim old age and disability pensions in their own right.

3. Family Court

A special family court, presided over by a solitary judge, will decide on whether a divorce is to be granted or not. Maintenance, custody of children and other matters arising out of the divorce will be settled before the marriage is annulled or in conjunction with the divorce.

4. Surnames, Marital Partnership

Marital partners can decide whether the husband's surname, the wife's or a conjunction of the two is to be used as the family's surname. Both partners have the right to go out to work. If both partners work, they must carry out household duties jointly in their leisure time.

(Die Welt, 9 June 1973)

Cabinet gives go-ahead to programme to aid foreign workers

A programme recently approved by the Cabinet aims at providing better conditions for foreign workers employed in this country. Labour Minister Walter Arendt told the Bundestag: "It is of pressing urgency to reconcile the unabated need for the employment of foreign workers with the necessity of helping them achieve fair and just integration into our society. We cannot permit this section of the population to be forced more and more to be outsiders. Social and welfare needs must no longer be allowed to play second fiddle to economic considerations."

The programme covers a number of points:

1) Foreign workers who have entered the country legally must be provided with decent accommodation by their employer. The homes that the employer provides must satisfy minimum requirements. They must be sufficiently large and contain adequate sanitary installations. Accommodation must not be overcrowded. In future the Federal Labour Institute is to check on conditions before sending a firm foreign workers.

2. The assignment of foreign workers to overcrowded urban areas should be made dependent on the ability of the social infrastructure to cater for newcomers. The central government, Federal states, local authorities and the Federal Labour Institute should cooperate more closely in drawing up assignment criteria.

3. The Federal Labour Institute should impose a drastic increase in the fee employers pay for the recruitment of foreign workers. The fee at present amounts to three hundred Marks per worker. It is proposed to increase this sum to 1,000 or 1,200 Marks. The surplus raised will flow into the Labour Institute's funds for financing integration measures. This money is used for career and language training, for providing adequate accommodation for foreign workers and day nurseries.

4. If these measures do not contribute to the consolidation of the employment of foreigners as much as is hoped, serious thought should be given to the introduction of a special charge on the employment of foreign workers. The money raised could finance local amenities contributing towards the social infrastructure.

5. The illegal employment of foreign labour and the atrocious conditions often linked with this must be combatted more effectively. It is currently being considered whether serious cases of employing illegal foreign labour could carry a minimum prison sentence for employers.

6. The government refuses, for social and humanitarian reasons, to force foreign workers to leave this country after a certain period has elapsed. No foreign worker undergoing legal employment can be forced to return to his home country. But the Federal Republic does not consider itself a country that can take an indefinite number of immigrants. However, as far as residence is concerned the status of foreign workers should be improved when they have lived here for more than a minimum period.

7. The government believes that the only lasting solution to the problems involved in the employment of foreign labour will have to be achieved on a European level. Social welfare and economic considerations suggest that it would only be rational to take the means of production to the labour force instead of vice-versa. The one-way traffic of workers coming to the places of production could then be gradually reduced.

Hans Henning Zencke

(Münchner Merkur, 8 June 1973)

■ COMMON MARKET

EEC accused of forming regional trading blocs

In the interim phase of new negotiations for a liberalisation of world trade many observers have a vision of great regional trading areas and an increased number of blocs in international economics forming.

Lateral ties between trading groups are, however, much more widespread than such black-and-white visions suggest. Behind the melancholy longing for liberal world trade of the old school there are definite vested interests at work.

The trade policy of EEC members has been conducted outside national boundaries since 1 January this year and is now subject to the Community Trading Policy.

Agreements on cooperation, general economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation, however, are not expressly subject to the previous procedure of consultation and communal trading policies of the Community.

It is quite possible to slip through this back door. Moscow still reasons that there is a chance of reaching agreements on trade in a veiled form, passing them off as cooperation treaties. How far this chicanery succeeds will be decide by the degree of solidarity and the hardness of the vested interests in the EEC camp.

Whereas the EEC is supposed to operate with a unified concept in dealings with countries of the Communist Bloc the room for manoeuvre of Eastern European countries is fairly wide, even though they are supposed to be subject to the strict rules of Comecon. There are no bloc-to-bloc negotiations. The smaller Comecon countries in particular are stretching out their feelers, as has been noted already in Brussels.

This is an indication of a remarkable contradiction. Members of the Communist economic bloc, whose opportunities for practising multilateral treaty-making among their centrally administrated economies will remain tightly controlled in future and who can only take a bilateral path with a more-or-less operational incorporation of such foreign trade in their overall economic planning, are nevertheless permitted to negotiate with "an imperialistically coordinated trade treaty monopoly" to use the Soviet terminology.

This is not likely to alter in the foreseeable future. The Comecon meeting that ended recently confirmed this.

It is not easy to fit such a constellation of trade policies into the traditional scheme of things. Relationships between the EEC and Comecon are at present of minor interest on account of the relatively modest proportion of foreign trade. The future structure of relationships between the United States and Europe is of far greater significance.

In his latest report on foreign policy President Nixon accused the EEC of practising regional autonomy in the economic sphere, while the United States continued to subscribe to the integrity of "an open international system".

This American displeasure at a development in Europe whose integrating effect has been greeted as relaxing a political burden, but whose economic emphases are increasingly being regarded as disruptive, is on the increase. This is becoming all the more marked the more America's foreign policy is determined by international economic factors.

American complaints about the increasing build-up of blocs in world trade contains a good deal of pragmatism. What is sold in Washington under the brand name "liberalism" reveals itself in the new American trading legislation draft as a collection of self-granted opportunities to meddle in trading policies, the implementation of which would be made dependent on domestic economic difficulties or disruptions to the balance of payments.

Not only trade-policy considerations at a government level are decisive, as the attitude of the American trade unions has shown. They are tending to give up their traditional liberal standpoint and take an increasingly restrictive line. Import quotas should be imposed, they feel, so that foreign competition cannot make inroads into old and endangered industries in which a large proportion of union members are employed.

Numerous developing countries have hinged their economies more and more on the European Community, particularly countries in Africa. They have weighed up the advantages and cashed in.

Continued on page 7

African government leaders in Brussels

The EEC Council of Ministers has invited the governments of nineteen African States originally having associate membership, as well as nineteen British Commonwealth countries from Africa, the Pacific, the Indian Ocean and the Caribbean to a conference in Brussels on 25 and 26 July.

According to a clause in Britain's entry treaty to the Common Market all these countries will be able to take associate membership of the EEC from 1975.

While Paris and some of the former French colonies associated with the EEC would like a renewal of the so-called Yaoundé associate-membership agreement some of the Commonwealth countries as well as a section of the British public see this form of association as a "system of neo-Colonialism".

The EEC Council of Ministers has decided after numerous debates to leave open the form that future cooperation is to take in its invitation to those States that are eligible for obtaining associate membership. There was agreement in principle that each of the invited developing countries should have in practice four possibilities to choose from:

1. Association of the Yaoundé type with trade advantages and communal development aid.
2. Association based on the Arusha Model, which has applied up till now to Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya (trade preferences without EEC development aid).
3. Pure trade agreements.
4. No agreements at all.

Since Ethiopia, Liberia and The Sudan have also opened up diplomatic channels to enable themselves to choose associate status these three governments as well as those of Guinea and Equatorial Guinea should be instructed that they may participate in the Brussels Conference if they should so wish.

Positive participation by these States, dipolmatic sources in the EEC emphasise, could show that the national sovereignty of partners is not undermined by associate membership.

During the association talks each of the guest developing countries should be given a free choice of opting in or out. In EEC diplomatic circles it is hoped that participation of British Commonwealth countries could help break the policy of vested interests so far dictated by Paris with the community of African States.

Erich Hauser

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 June 1973)

EEC wants more political cooperation

The governments of the nine EEC countries plan in future to hold consultations before making domestic political decisions that impinge on European interests. An order to this effect is contained in a report advocating greater political cooperation which the EEC Foreign Ministers approved in basic outline at a meeting in Luxembourg on 5 June.

The Ministers also approved the setting up of teleprinter links between each of the Foreign Ministries of EEC countries as from 1 July this year.

Among the other proposals, which still have to be accepted by the respective governments are:

1. Closer cooperation of the embassies of EEC States in foreign countries.
2. The formations of a plaming staff to work out joint agreements on long-term affairs.
3. Where appropriate the strengthening of the presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers, which alternates every six months by a subsidiary staff of officials from other EEC countries, a kind of "mini-secretariat".

The committee, which has been in existence for two-and-a-half years and on which the political directors of the EEC Foreign Ministries meet for regular talks, is to receive the official title "political committee of the member States of the European Communities".

This committee works outside the scope of the Community treaties and forms the kernel of political cooperation between member States.

Differences of opinion between France and other EEC countries marked the discussions of the Foreign Ministers on the future relationship between the Community and the United States of America. Three months before President Nixon's planed trip to Europe there is still no agreement here on the nature of the dialogue. While most EEC countries want to greet Nixon as a bloc the French insisted that the talks must be bilateral.

Foreign Minister Jobert was in favour of Nixon's meeting the Presidents of the EEC Council of Ministers and Commission alone, and their speaking for themselves, not with the voice of the Community. Among those who were most keen on a multilateral session of talks was Walter Scheel of the Federal Republic.

In the light of the problems that both sides are treating with urgency such as monetary, trade and security problems Scheel spoke out in favour of continued rounds of talks between Europe and the USA at which Washington would not be allowed to exercise any influence over European policies.

After many hours of discussions France concurred with the suggestion that this matter should be placed before the sub-committee of political directors of the Foreign Ministries. The sub-committee was assigned the task of sounding out points held in common and differences of opinion prior to a new conference of Foreign Ministers in July.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 6 June 1973)

EEC works on new Mediterranean trade policy

At a meeting on 4 June in Luxembourg the EEC Council of Ministers gave a more specific idea of its plans to set up a free-trade area between the European Community and States bordering on the Mediterranean by the end of the seventies.

The agreement will in the main cover trade in industrial produce and petroleum products as well as financial aid. The crux of the difficulties involved, however, lies in the agricultural sector. These problems are to be discussed later in the presence of Agriculture Ministers.

As far as industrial trading with Spain and Israel is concerned the Community will propose that by 1978 customs duties on eighty per cent of products should be whittled away. Where certain highly sensitive industrial products are concerned, it would be permitted for customs levies to be extended to 1980 but not more than twenty per cent of trade must be involved, and for five per cent of the total a further extension to 1985 would be permitted these countries.

The Community is, however, not clear about the conditions it wishes to impose on these arrangements. Practically all Med. countries have expressed an interest in coming to terms, and so the Belgian Foreign Minister van Elslande, President of the Council, admonished colleagues to exercise caution.

Where petroleum products are concerned the Council has agreed on principle that the three Maghreb countries, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia as well as Israel and Spain, should be offered a duty-free delivery ceiling. When this had been reached a special decision by the Council would be needed before new customs duties could be introduced.

The Council of Ministers also made progress over the chapter concerning the Maghreb countries and Malta within the framework of an overall Mediterranean concept for cooperation and financial aid. Among the ideas being considered are low rates of interest on loans, or, within limits, non-repayable subsidies. The Federal Republic is concerned that such measures should be financed from Community funds.

In order to achieve the aims of a Mediterranean policy conceived as an overall concept more generous regulations regarding agricultural trading are required. On this point member States have so far shown little interest in granting concessions.

Agriculture Ministers, who are negotiating to pave the way to this part of the overall complex, met recently in Luxembourg. The results of their deliberations together with the reservations thrown up by Italy, which wishes to protect itself against competition from other Med. Countries, are to be discussed over later with the Foreign Ministers.

The Foreign Ministers for their part turned their attention first of all to the preparation of a new worldwide round of talks within the Gatt framework.

Hans Apel, State Secretary to the Bonn Foreign Office, is confident of a rapprochement of France, with its highly protectionist outlook, and other member countries. He said that it was possible to sympathise with the French viewpoint that further currency upheavals would undermine attempts to facilitate trading. On the other hand he felt that France should show some understanding, and not impede the wishes of the EEC at the start of a new round of Gatt consultations.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 June 1973)

■ THE ECONOMY

First signs that economic brakes are biting

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The rate at which consumer prices are increasing accelerated again in May. But still there is a chance for this trend to be reversed. The so-called early-warning signals that the economic brakes are beginning to bite – and prices, particularly consumer prices, are not among these initial signs – show that the squeeze consistently applied by the Bundesbank is having its first noticeable effects.

As a result of the massive increase in interest rates (returns of fixed-interest bonds have in the past four months shot up to over ten per cent, for instance) there has been a cutback in home loans – new mortgages granted by banks were down by five per cent in March and twenty per cent in April.

According to the latest economic survey by the Ifo economic research institute the climate in the building trade has started to worsen compared with the preceding months. The building trade is particularly sensitive to economic trends, and, after allowances have been made for seasonal fluctuations, orders for new housing and civil engineering have dropped since December last.

All in all important ups and downs, with seasonal variations ironed out by the statisticians, seem to indicate that the boom has passed its peak. Since January the in-coming orders to industry in this country have been falling, if the natural pick-up after the winter is cancelled out statistically.

This applies to all important branches of the economy, for raw materials producers and producer goods, for consumer terms and for the capital investment goods industries. In-coming orders still more than cover orders already completed, but month by month this gap is being closed.

Of course we should not overlook the fact that this decline has started from an extremely high peak. So these first signs of the downhill run by no means signify a relaxation of tension. But they could be the beginnings of the significant cooling off. Since January production has been virtually stagnant in all branches of the economy (with seasonal fluctuations again ironed out). The fact that production capacities are being used to the full has played its part in this stagnation, of course.

Even on the labour market, which is generally only affected by economic trends at a very late date, there seem to be signs that the situation of over-employment is breaking down gradually. According to the figures (seasonal fluctuations ironed out) available up till April the number of people unemployed has increased steadily since January. The number of situations vacant has regularly declined.

The shift in monetary volumes that lies behind these statistics shows signs of tending in the right direction. The expansion of cash and sight deposits appears to have been considerably checked compared with earlier figures.

The annual growth rates (seasonal shifts smoothed out) dropped from fifteen per cent in the third quarter of 1972 to twelve per cent in the fourth quarter of last year and to 8.5 per cent in the first three months of this year. As the Bundesbank states in its monetary and credit statistics for April this development has obviously been continuing.

Company profits – contrary to a widely expressed belief – have not been adding fuel to the fire of this boom. According to the association of employers in the metalworking industries profits in the metal industry would have to increase by one hundred per cent if the extremely high returns of the great boom year 1969 were to be equalled. In fact profits would have to improve by thirty to 35 per cent if the achievements of the "by no means satisfactory year 1970" were to be caught up with. The predicted increase in income from business activities for 1973 as forecast by the committee of experts (seventeen per cent of 1972 figures) cannot be compared with the profits achieved in the metalworking industries.

This is not so surprising, since the most important items on the costs side of the balance sheet, wages and salaries, are on the rise. At the beginning of this year wage-scale agreements were at a reasonable level of around 8.5 per cent, but these have long since ceased to be reliable guidelines. At present increases of eleven and twelve per cent are not uncommon.

Actual incomes are even higher, that is to say pay including voluntary extras, overtime rates and the like.

In industry the average increase in the amount paid per employee has increased from seven per cent in the third quarter of 1972, via eleven per cent in the fourth quarter of last year to something like fourteen per cent in he first three months of this year. In the first quarter of 1973 in the economy as a whole incomes rose more steeply than the proceeds of business activities and from investments.

Today the rising trend in wage increase is one of the tricky points that is likely to undermine the Bundesbank's squeeze and the progress the government hopes to make with its stabilisation policies.

Another risk to stabilisation intentions is government spending. The recently published figures for government spending this year showing an increase of 9.6 per cent have been criticised by some observers as having been "manipulated".

If it is true that the actual increase is even higher the State is obviously setting a wretched example!

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 June 1973)

Food prices – up, up, up

Food prices went up again between April and May, and in May they were 11.1 per cent higher than at the same time last year. According to the Federal Ministry of Food, products that were dependent on the weather and crop yields were as much as 28.2 per cent dearer than last year.

Between April and May fruit went up by 6.8 per cent, potatoes by 18.5 and poultry by 1.8 per cent. Only vegetables were cheaper, 5.8 per cent down on the previous month.

The highest increase over May 1972 was in the case of potatoes, up by a massive 91.8 per cent. Beef, vegetables and fruit showed price rises of between twenty and thirty per cent.

All in all important ups and downs, with seasonal variations ironed out by the

(Handelsblatt, 14 June 1973)

RPM abolition – a new deal for the customer

Without a vote against the Bundestag passed the amendment to this country's monopolies legislation on 14 June. The main points of the amendment are abolition of price maintenance on branded goods, improved supervision to prevent abuses with regard to price recommendations, a ban on collusion measures, implementation of a monopolies commission, preventive merger controls and tighter supervision of companies that have a dominant position on any market.

The spiritual father of the free market economy based on fair competition, Ludwig Erhard, found resale price maintenance a thorn in the flesh. In 1965 the then Economic Affairs Minister Kurt Schmücker described "the privilege of price maintenance" as being incompatible with the principle of fair competition.

His attempt to abolish RPM failed in the Bundestag as did the first draft of a similar Bill from Karl Schiller's ministry in the Federal Cabinet in 1968.

Now RPM has gone. After initial resistance from the FDP the parliamentary parties of the government coalition wrote a ban on price maintenance into the government's Bill of amendment to monopolies legislation. Remaining price maintenance must be phased out by the end of this year, and when the amendment comes into force no new cases of RPM may be registered.

Reports show that at the end of last year there were 174,283 branded articles from 810 companies subject to price fixing in this country. These were reported to the monopolies authorities. These articles had to be sold at the price their manufacturer specified.

If weak links were discovered in the chain from manufacturer to consumer and the producer was unable to control the price at which the consumer would purchase an article RPM was lifted. Even though RPM has gone and the effect of price recommendations will be lessened as part of Bonn's stabilisation programme this does not mean that a miracle of lower prices and greater stability will be performed. Defenders of RPM and experts who warn against entertaining too many hopes about the stabilisation effect of this amendment point out that in the average shopping basket for a family with two children only five to ten per cent of the articles used to be affected by RPM.

Opponents of RPM have countered, however, that whenever RPM has been undermined and done away with, such as in the case of razors, detergents and colour televisions, prices have fallen by up to thirty per cent.

Government experts deny the claims of manufacturers of branded goods that the end of RPM will bring disadvantages for the consumer. Competitiveness will ensure, they feel, that even in remoter areas quality, service and supply will not decline. But the advantages of the end of RPM will only be felt if the consumer actively seizes them.

For the shopper it will be even more important to compare the quality and price of alternative brands. Consumers must ignore pries printed in advertisements and on packaging. Bargaining will become the "in" thing at home and not just on holidays in the South, Health Minister Katharina Focke said recently.

The ban on price maintenance, the restrictions on price recommendation and the more thorough regulations regarding the exhibition of prices, measures which come into force on 1 July, will give the consumer an adequate opportunity to take this advice to heart.

Christian Richter

(Neue Hannoversche, 13 June 1973)

New 'name your price' law

Prices must be more clearly displayed by law. From 1 July service industries will have to let customers know their charges by clear displays. This applies for example to banks and savings banks, agents, filling stations, car repair shops, parking lots and car washes.

Workshops: Hourly labour charges must be displayed and a list of the forty most common repair jobs with the average amount of time they take must be hung in a place where it can be readily seen by customers.

Agents: Fees must be quoted, even in newspaper insertions. When rents are quoted the percentage to be paid to the agent must be stated.

Banks: Interest rates must be displayed on the counter where the customer can readily see them.

Talks are still in progress with representatives of other service industries. Basically the price a customer is expected to pay must be on show. Infringement of this legislation can lead to fines of up to 50,000 Marks.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 25 May 1973)

Attitudes to ads surveyed

Forty-nine per cent of consumers in this country say that advertising for most products is credible. However, 45 per cent claim they do not believe most ads, according to a survey carried out by GfK consumer research, Nuremberg, on the attitude of the man-in-the street to modern marketing methods.

Fifty-six per cent of consumers say that the difference in quality between differing brands of the same product is rarely of much consequence, while 38 per cent feel that different brands often differ widely.

Young people and those with a higher level of education tended to be far more critical of advertising methods than others interviewed.

GfK concludes that West Germans are not vastly different in their attitudes to advertising, fair competition, pricing policies and services from Americans, as a similar survey in the United States indicated. But one essential difference was that in America the consumer was far more aware in his or her purchases of merits and defects of what was on offer.

(Handelsblatt, 30 May 1973)

More firms go bust

In the first quarter of this year 1,278 companies in this country had to declare their inability to meet their commitments at bankruptcy courts. This represents a seven-per-cent increase on the corresponding period of 1972. An even greater increase in this period of economic boom has been noted in he number of "seven-figure failures", bankruptcies with over a million Marks in debts unpaid. This was the case in he failure of 105 companies, an increase of 25 per cent.

The spectre of bankruptcy lurked in transport and communications sector and the building trade most noticeably in this period. (Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 May 1973)

Continued from page 6

Other partners in world trade, particularly the United States, feel they have been discriminated against. This is the reverse side of the coin.

Furthermore there is the question of whether the pull of the large and traditional customers will hamper even further the already underdeveloped beginnings of integration of the markets in developing countries. *Gerd Janssen*

(Handelsblatt, 13 June 1973)

■ SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Computers and 3D dominate cartographers congress

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Three-dimensional maps are here to stay. In an exhibition at the Munich cartographers' conference, which was attended by 800 specialists from fourteen countries, the first *maps showing all kinds of country in its natural dimensions* were on show.

"It is as though you were flying overhead at a height of a few hundred metres in a helicopter," Munich cartographer Dr Heinz Kötter commented.

What you see depends on the angle of vision. It may be the pinnacles of the Watzmann *massif* or, at an even higher altitude, Königssee, bathed in light of an enchanting red.

Previous three-dimensional maps based on the analglyphic principle have been reminiscent of the 3D toys of childhood. But the latest kind dispense with the 3D spectacles and do not depend for their effect on one particular camera location and angle.

This latest venture into optical illusion is yet another outcome of laser research. It has been developed by the government-financed Radiation and Environmental Research Association, based at Neuherberg, near Munich.

Laser photography is called holography. Laser beams are focused on a scale model of the chart area that can be anything up to two by two metres in size and transferred to a photographic plate.

The result is ahologram, invisible to the naked eye but glowing redly in the beam of another laser. Holography, according to radiologist Jürgen Kinder, opens up new dimensions not only for geographers but also für training aircraft pilots, mountain rescue teams and the like.

Last but not least it could well prove extremely useful in schools, many of which already have lasers in their science labs. In five years or so we may be seeing the first holographic films.

Another headline-hitting development in cartography came in for criticism at Munich. Professor Herbert Hufnagel of Munich termed Bremen historian Arno Peters' "ortogonal" projection extremely frivolous and anything but up to the minute.

The Peters principle was designed to iron out the distortion caused by centuries of projections based on Europe as the centre of the world.

Using his projection Europe, the United States and the Soviet Union appear far smaller and less significant than they have done in the past in relation to South America, Africa and Australia.

Attempts to counteract this distortion that was inevitable when transferring the face of the globe to a flat surface had been frequent since before the First World War and were, Professor Hufnagel noted, standard practice at all colleges of surveying.

He brought to the conference's notice a climate map of the world published by the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences in 1955 and pointed out that its proportions (and the distortion of the Northern Hemisphere as usually visualised) were exactly the same as those of Arno Peters.

For maps of the entire world projections of this kind are quite unsuitable, Hufnagel maintained. There has yet, he stated, to be an improvement on Mercator's map of 1569, which at least got the angles right and was more satisfactory for position-finding.

Cartographers place far greater hopes in satellite surveys and the use of computers in their work. There will be unquestionable topographical changes in the years to come, Dr Kötter noted. They will be based on the irrefutable evidence of satellite charts.

For the first time satellite photography has made it possible to chart accurately the course of many rivers and coastlines. There are, of course, no longer any *completely uncharted territories* in the world, but satellites can fill in a great deal of detail.

A United Nations survey has revealed that only three per cent of the surface of the globe has been mapped in any detail – at a scale of 1:25,000 or less. Most of the world is only available at a scale of 1:1,000,000.

Information concerning other changes, such as new frontiers, roads, canals, pipelines and so on, is circulated for the most part by an international data centre in Budapest.

At times cartographers have, of course, to pay lip service to political guidelines – as, say, in the case of the so-called German Eastern territories.

"For decades we were given clear and strict instructions by Bonn," cartographer Kötter complained. "Then, in 1969, they were quietly buried. Enquiries were made at several Bonn Ministries but no reply was forthcoming."

Now that Bonn has signed its treaties with Moscow, Warsaw and East Berlin cartographers in this country have complied with the practice that has been obeved in other countries for many years.

On all maps the frontiers of Germany are now marked as they are *de facto*, and place-names are entered in accordance with the current official designation.

The times they are a'changing in cartography. In a few years time many maps will be traced automatically with the aid of computers. Surveyors will have to seeks fresh employment. Many land registry maps are already the result of data processing. The exhibition featured maps of Bavaria with survey points denoted and handled by computers programmed by the Institute of Planning Cybernetics. In the data processing department of the Environment Ministry in Munich work is in progress on an information system for town and country planning commissioned by the Federal government and the standing conference of State premiers. The long-term target of this project is to produce within the hour computorised maps of any area required containing any information that may be required.

Karl Stankiewitz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 16 June 1973)



On the left is the Zeiss 1872 model microscope, designed [illegible] Ernst von Abbé, and beside it the Zeiss model 1973 (Photo: [illegible])

New Zeiss microscope

NRZ NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG

In the Zeiss laboratories at Oberkochen a new microscope system has been developed that has astonished even specialists on being premiered. The Zeiss Axiomat range is based on research work by Dr Kurt Michel and his team at the microscopy research laboratories.

The Axiomat design represents the first fundamental change in microscope structure in a century. The major functions are performed by a number of brick-shaped basic elements. Arranged in various orders, they combine to result in a compact microscope ideally suited for a special use.

The Axiomat's optical axis is symmetrical, which endows the new range with extraordinary mechanical and thermic stability.

One of the elements consists of a large and a small camera, both fully automatic. Instead of the large camera a photometer can be incorporated, though.

The Axiomat range is so designed [illegible] permit the rearrangement of a [illegible] number of basic elements to pro[illegible] ideal and compact instrument for [illegible] specialised fields ranging from [illegible]graphy and semiconductors to [illegible] research.

The new microscope took a surpri[illegible] short time to develop. The patent was [illegible] applied for until 1967, since when [illegible] Federal government has shared re[illegible] and development expenditure wi[illegible] manufacturers.

The basic price of an Axi[illegible] microscope is approximately [illegible] Marks.

Beate B[illegible]

(Neue Ruhr Zeitung, 31 May 19[illegible])

Cut out Africa and South America from a map of the world and you will find that they fit together like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle, or at least so nearly so as to make it seem more than likely that they used to do so.

At the turn of the century the German geophysicist Alfred Wegener accordingly mooted the suggestion that today's continents are the result of the drift apart of one earlier super-continent to which he gave the name Pangea.

Wegener's supposition was that Pangea had split apart into a Northern continent, Laurasia, and a Southern continent, Gondwanaland, two hundred million years ago.

Later, during the Cretaceous period and about 100 million years ago, the Southern continent burst asunder again, resulting in what are now Africa and South America.

There was, of course, more to Wegener's theory than the mere vital statistics of today's continents. He succeeded in advancing any amount of evidence londing support to his theory – ranging from traces of the Ice Age in Africa to the existence of coal seams on Spitzbergen, near the current North Pole.

His evidence was tempting enough, yet Wegener never succeeded in hitting on the motive force responsible for triggering off his continental drift, and the question has remained unanswered until the most recent past.

Continental drift theory given more weight

"Over the past ten years a new hypothesis on the development of oceans and continents has been evolved," Karlsruhe geophysicist Professor Karl Fuchs writes in a comprehensive review of the latest research published in *Fridericiana*, the university journal.

"The current stratum hypothesis," he continues, "is based on the assumption that the surface of the Earth is in relatively swift horizontal motion. The Earth's outer crust, the 100-km lithosphere, consists of six large and a number of smaller, rigid strata.

"They drift like icebergs on a substratum with reduced viscosity, colliding, sliding past one another and apart. According to the hypothesis some of the strata are in continual development underneath the oceans and slide back into the Earth's mantle elsewhere."

The motive force that parts the continents, according to the current theory, is basalt magma that works its way up under the ocean beds, pushing aside the Earth's outer crust, the lithosphere.

As regards Africa and South America, the assumption is that their drift ap[illegible] caused by a submarine mountain ra[illegible] the Atlantic.

Echo soundings have proved that [illegible] range extends from Iceland to [illegible] Antarctic and magma is presumed to [illegible] from the ridge, pushing the old ocea[illegible] East and West at a rate of between [illegible] and six centimetres a year.

Since the Earth's surface is fi[illegible] though, and magma on the move ha[illegible] stay put somewhere or other, it [illegible] assumed that magma slips back into [illegible] bowels of the Earth elsewhere.

Geologists further assume this [illegible] elsewhere can be localised as the deep [illegible] divides in the Pacific. Like icebergs th[illegible] upend and plummet, parts of the ocean lithosphere are presumed to be submerged up to 700 kilometres (400 miles) [illegible] the Earth's mantle at the ocean's greatest depths.

Where there are no "soft spots" [illegible] which matter can retreat the continents, specifically Africa and South America, have no option but to move along with the ocean bed.

This, then, is the cause of continental drift. "Continents no longer plough their way through the ocean crust," Professor Fuchs explains. "They can be compared with rafts frozen on top of icebergs [illegible] passively float along with the ice."

Theo Löbsack

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 5 June 1973)



■ DRAMA

Confusion at first Berlin drama congress

DIE WELT

The first drama congress arranged by German-language drama schools could easily have proved a failure. Communication between the various groups was often extremely difficult because of the differences in terminology, in the political ideology behind it and in the aims of each individual school.

On the third day of the five-day congress held in Berlin from 4 to 8 June delegates from Zürich, Vienna and Essen who described themselves as conservatives expressed their objections to the congress.

There were too few theatre people at the congress, they claimed and accused the congress organisers of not letting the few that were there have their say. The organisers were also accused of being biased and the Berlin delegates' majority was also attacked.

But the protesters did not alter the course of the congress or cause its failure as most of the delegates recognised the need of improving the training given to actors and actresses.

Preparations had been so thorough (a 226-page preliminary document was issued beforehand) and organisation so efficient (thanks to Moritz Milar, head of the Max Reinhardt School in Berlin) that though secessionist groups were formed there was no split.

The most important decision taken at the congress was to set up a standing conference of drama teachers and students scheduled to meet at least twice a year. The first of these conferences is due to take place at Hanover's Music and Drama Academy in early October.

Preparations for the first drama education congress lasted two years and the agenda was long and varied. Three hundred and fifty people attended the congress, including lecturers and students from all thirteen State drama Schools in the German-speaking world, representatives of private schools and independent theatre groups, theatre directors and actors (though fewer than had been hoped), educationalists, psychologists, sociologists and drama theorists.

Apart from providing these people with general information about drama studies, the five-day congress discussed the training given to actors and actresses and the current state of affairs at the theatres for which they are trained.

It was generally agreed that few schools provided young actors with a realistic view of their profession. Though they taught technical skills they did not prepare actors for the realities of theatre life.

Demands were repeatedly raised for a more practical course of drama training. The drama schools' confusion about their own teaching aims and their disregard for changes in the theatre world were generally criticised.

New-style theatre where traditions are no longer emphasised demands a different type of actor to that turned out by drama schools. A number of speeches at the congress confirmed this view.

Professor Arno Paul of the Free University in Berlin and Dr Elmar Buck of Hanover Technical University analysed the development of the bourgeois theatre and concluded that new dramatic forms must be found outside existing theatres. New styles and new subject matter must be found in order to cater for certain sections of the community.

Perforamances at municipal theatres more usually resembled a funeral than the pleasurable occasion they were ment to be, Paul and Buck claimed. Theatres would never attract new audiences in this fashion.

Delegates discussed past examples of free theatrical forms and the changes in drama training that resulted. Among the names mentioned were Stanislavski, Meyerhold, Piscator, Brecht, Artaud and the Living Theatre and, returning to the present, Roger Planchon and the unity of theatre and drama school he advocates.

Only a few of the topics discussed or at least mentioned by the congress can be listed here. There was for instance the question of the psychological position of actors, especially at smaller theatres, the problems and methods of free groups, the problems involved in examinations at the schools, the further training of educationalists and actors for children's theatres. The minutes of all the debates will soon be published.

On the final day of the congress delegates passed a number of resolutions and recommendations. They demanded a scientific basis for the drama schools' teaching and learning aims, an increase in the length of study from three to four years and an improvement in the transition from training to practice.

They also passed a number of resolutions on children's theatres, demanded salary increases for actors who had only just started in the profession and called for an improvement in the position of assistant producers in theatres.

Wolfgang Kahlcke

(Die Welt, 13 June 1973)

New Hochhuth comedy

Playwright Rolf Hochhuth is currently working on a new political comedy based on the old Lysistrata theme. The play is set in Greece shortly after the establishment of the military regime in 1968.

As soldiers are to be stationed on a small Greek island, the women take a leaf out of Lysistrata's book and go on strike. In the end their actions meet with success.

The comedy will be published this autumn by the Rowohlt Verlag and should be performed at a number of theatres in the Federal Republic next spring.

(Die Welt, 14 June 1973)


HELENA A ROSSOW V... HROSWIDA, MONIALIS IN GANDERSHEIM
(Photo: ...)

Gandersheim honours Roswitha von Gandersheim

Roswitha von Gandersheim, still remembered in the world of Western culture as Germany's first woman poet and celebrated by European humanists as "Germany's Sappho", "the world's most scholarly woman" or "a Teutonic marvel", is to be honoured again this year when a commemorative medal is to be struck on the thousand anniversary of her death.

The medal, sponsored by the town of Gandersheim, will be awarded annually to a German authoress. The best young actor at the annual Gandersheim Festival – this year's, the fifteenth, is taking place from 26 May to 30 June – will be presented with a Roswitha ring.

The post office have issued a special postage stamp to commemorate Roswitha von Gandersheim and no lesser figure than President Gustav Heinemann came to the town this year to open the Festival.

There are no official documents recording her birth or death or any other events in her life but her literary works suggest that Hrosvit, as she called herself, was born between 930 and 940 and probably died in 973. Roswitha received an excellent education in the convent at Gandersheim where she was canoness and did not publish her first work until 962.

The great political events of that time led to a flourishing culture which received most of its impetus from a synthesis of the ancient and Christian world. O... the great centres of this culture wa... convent in Gandersheim.

Roswitha's works were also influ... by the spirit of the times. Their ... organisation was modelled on ... comedies of Terence and their s... matter was taken from the legen... Christian saints and martyrs.

It was with these dramatised l... that Roswitha attempted to supp... Roman social comedies that w... morally objectionable from the Chr... point in view.

Roswitha von Gandersheim wro... total of six dramas in Latin rhy... prose. Her *Theophilus* is regarded a... oldest dramatic version of the ... legend. She also wrote a further ... dramas in leonist hexameters and ... distichs as well as 25 lines o... Apocalypse of St John.

Roswitha herself arranged her w... into three volumes, according to ... and content. As they were writt... Latin, they could only be read ... scholars, though they were known ... beyond the frontiers of the worl... German culture. Her works were ... forgotten for almost four centuries ... Conrad Celtes rediscovered them i... manuscript at the St Emmeran conve... Regensburg.

Interest in Roswitha's works wa... the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighte... centuries until Johann Christoph Go... sched, the literary critic and profe... from Leipzig, tried to revive them.

Gottsched described Roswitha ... only gifted intellectual person ... who understood anything about ... poetry. Her works had been printe... beginning of the eighteenth cent... they were now reissued and ... into foreign languages. The ... a decisive contribution towa... into her works in 1830.

The first translations of her wor... modern German were not issu... 1922 as part of a volume ... poets of the middle ages ... the German edition of her ... Helene Homeyer.

These and other critical work... by Bert Nagel in his book ... *Gandersheim* have helped ... Roswitha to a wider readi... could increase the popu... works even in the pres...

... Hannes...

(Kieler Nachrichten, 2...)

Most television actors are dissatisfied with their working conditions, the White-Collar Workers Union (DAG) found during a painstakingly conducted survey. The findings have now been submitted to the appropriate authorities in Bonn.

Union investigates actors' working conditions

The DAG report outlines the current situation of actors and producers in the various branches of the entertainment business. Though it also investigates the position at State-run theatres, private theatres and in the film industry, most attention is paid to television.

The DAG found that television companies refuse to consider actors as employees. Instead they give them free-lance status in order to avoid paying social security contributions and calculating their tax deductions.

Television companies have so far refused to agree to pay deals which would be legally binding in all parts of the country. DAG claims that actors and producers can no longer be expected to accept the present conditions under which they are paid on a free-lance basis.

DAG also claims that the television companies have entered into a series of obligations and agreements that take effect when an actor revolts against various conditions imposed upon him.

DAG criticised the fact that contracts often remained unsigned until the work was completed and the fees handed out. This practice is also common at radio stations.

"The normal rules of a contract are often ignored as a result," DAG found. Television companies take advantage of their powerful position by dictating contracts that are often extremely dubious from a legal point of view, the report states.

A good deal of time was devoted to compiling the report and other researchers' findings were included in it, DAG points out.

Many actors indeed tend to criticise the state of affairs outlined in the report. Complaints can always be heard in theatres and television studios. Criticism does not only come from the unknown actors – without whose help no television series or drama would be possible. Even the stars who normally receive better treatment talk of anarchy.

There are so many complications in the acting branch that it would be difficult to draw up a standardised set of regulations governing the employment of actors and producers. But the DAG has taken a step in the right direction.

Joachim Redetzki

(Kieler Nachrichten, 13 June 1973)

THE ARTS

Liebermann bows out with a milestone in Hamburg

Lübecker Nachrichten

...was a stroke of genius when planning the schedule for the Hamburg Opera ...made Richard Strauss' last opera ...cio the last work to be premiered ...the Staatsoper in the Rolf Liebermann ... This last new production of the 72/73 season marks the farewell to ...bermann, who has been in Hamburg ... fourteen years.

It would not have been possible to find ... better work to mark this period of change, this time of reflection.

Recently, as an entrée to his future career in Paris, Liebermann proved with a production of *The Marriage of Figaro* that even today an opera production can take on the status of almost an act of State. This was again the case in Hamburg at the moment of farewell, when the director and his co-workers both had a chance to review their standpoint.

Capriccio, which Strauss called not an opera but conversation-piece for music in one act, was the ideal vehicle for reviewing the basic controversies of opera down through the centuries.

The theses put forward by Strauss were put across inimitably by Hans Sotin as La Roche, the theatre manager. They went far beyond the reach of the footlights in Hamburg, and brought forth from the Hamburg audience a spontaneous burst of enthusiasm.

During his years in Hamburg Liebermann has continually tried to enrich the repertoire with a series of commissioned works, since he believes emphatically in the medium of opera as an art form Which still has relevance today.

But the true greatness of Liebermann was the determination with which he set out to attract the greatest singers, directors and conductors to the Hamburg Staatsoper.

Under his aegis productions in Hamburg soared to new, previously undreamt-of heights. His decision to reproduce the phenomenon of opera in all its breadth with the best possible equipment and to confirm belief in the right of each of its forms to an existence had far-reaching consequences.

With this basic principle with regard to operatic work Rolf Liebermann's aims were the same as those of the authors of *Capriccio*, Clemens Krauss and Richard Strauss.

At the end of this work the audience leaves convinced of the message that the question: do words take precedence over music or vice-versa? has no answer that can be applied generally and unequivocally.

With convincing and masterly interpretations in the diferent sectors Rolf Liebermann made clear with great emphasis that this answer is relative. This indirect agreement with the work made *Capriccio* the ideal justification and no less ideal conclusion of his work at the Hamburg Staatsoper.

Transposition of *Capriccio*, basically a piece of chamber music, to the massive stage in Hamburg in fact meant that one or two artistic discrepancies had to be accepted. But these did not provide a convincing reason for suggesting that it was in any way mistaken to present this work at this place.



Arlene Saunders as the Countess, Harald Ek as the musician Flamand and William Workman as the poet Olivier in the septet sequence from Strauss' *Capriccio* at the Hamburg Staatsoper

(Photo: du Vinage)

It was largely due to the excellent conducting of Julius Rudel, who had a great feeling for the work, that *Capriccio* was made to fit into such a large theatre.

In places where the electrically amplified harpsichord placed accents of leitmotiv nature the sound was too oppressive, but this can presumably be improved in later performances.

Basically it was quite amazing how Rudel's musical skills managed to maintain all the colourful glory of the orchestra in the ensemble numbers such as the laughter and quarrel octet.

Julius Rudel, the chief conductor at the City Centre Opera, New York, judging by this example, is one of the greatest Strauss interpreters of today.

The solo parts in his production were taken entirely by Hamburg regulars. Hans Sotin was outstanding, while Arlene Saunders sang the part of the Countess with noble reserve and her intimate pianissimi were most impressive.

Harald Ek gave a flowing performance of the musician Flamand, and William Workman as the poet Olivier was excellent in the parlando of their conversation.

Victor Braun as the Count, Tatjana Troyanos (Clairon) and Peter Haage (Souffleur) proved to be outstanding artistes in their roles. Special applause went to Jeanette Scovotti and Adolf Dallapozza as the Italian singers in roles that called for great comedy as well as Italian tenor and sopranio voices.

Rudolf Steinboeck and Eckehard Grubler performed their roles as the director and costumier with pleasing artistic integrity.

This production will go down as a milestone in the history of the Hamburg opera.

Dr Hans Erdmann

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 13 June 1973)

Nestler retrospective at Hamburg Film Festival

After years of compromise, higgledy-piggledy programmes and misplaced festival ambitions the Hamburg Film Festival has once again been given clear outlines. The new conception is counter-information, that is to say films that other festivals, television and even independent cinemas have given the go-by.

Contrary to the latest trends in commercial and independent films politics and "the aesthetes" were kept clearly separated. Whenever art lipped into the midst of a political session there were boos, votes against and a rejection of the film.

Examples of aesthetic innovation in films were obviously pushed to the periphery. On the other hand film examples by the Hamburg Co-op (non-existent), free moving underground filmmakers (they still call them that) and from Berlin and Munich Universities reflected a rather jaded atmosphere of sobriety, with only a few exceptions, a climate of isolation, a cool atmosphere. There were the involved filmmakers, revealing delightful chaos, the light-weights, Romantics, neo-Naivety (perhaps you could also say neo-Infantilism), private mythologies and social-liberal Biedermeier.

Political films like any others are subject to trends and fashions. A few years ago there were only demanding, theoretical litanies. Today the dominant films are specific, with limitations of space and time, direct documented accounts of a strike, the taking over of a house by squatters, a student revolt.

Political films from Eire, Britain, France, Italy and West Germany were virtually all alike: actions, discussions, demonstrations and long statements, all of which could just as easily have been put across by the media of brochures, lectures or radio talks.

Blind actionism on the screen reproduced as an emotional stimulant drug? Higher algebra explained and demonstrated on a calculating machine? These judgments would be unfair. Most of these films were made amid pressures of time and money and were a political battlecry, an important step, an aid, a positive voice in an acute dispute.

Their analytical qualities, their exemplary nature, their valid arguments for the corresponding sphere of production and finally their possible use for other labour and class struggles can presumably only be judged by people who have experience in active political filmwork. Many such socialist groups came to Hamburg to test this programme for their purposes. The feuilleton, film criticism must, however, on this occasion admit that it is incompetent to judge.

Peter Nestler was an exception. He is a significant documentary filmmaker who moved to Sweden in 1966. There was a retrospective of his shorts. His pragmatic stylistic will, his rigorous use of space and time, his calm, long camera moves and pans and the tight, suggestive montages have an astonishing effect: people, landscapes, action, ideas are presented in a matter-of-fact manner without being oppressive. They are never forced into a certain direction and are never degraded into the position of being proof of a point.

Nestler does not operate like television companies when tackling a subject with a sense of superiority and self-satisfaction. He puts himself modestly and honestly behind his subject so as to serve it the better. His films achieve that which we search for in vain in the filmed class struggles – analysis, insight, clear information and also personal involvement, concern and perception.

His documentations are sparse, sober, quite plain and convincing with their unmistakable intensity. The combination of visual and textual information is characteristic. There is the round-the-



harbour trip, of napalm bombing in Vietnam (*Sightseeing*, 1968), a group of old women in a village street watching German soldiers perform brutal acts (*Von Griechenland*, 1965) as well as children on roundabouts, peasants in the fields and police interrogation methods (*Spanien*, 1972/73). War and political terror are established in the place where they have their decisive effect: in everyday life as it affects the man-in-the-street.

One extremely subtle agitation film is *Uber die Geschichte des Papiers* (1971). With painstaking detail the history and methods of the old craft of papermaking are demonstrated. The advance of industrialisation involved is scarcely noticed and highly plausible. Here we can see what the alienation of labour is all about.

This is underlined with Nestler's commentary with its harsh poetry. The first sentence is: "Paper is made from a thin watery pulp in which there are finely ground pieces or threads of vegetable fibres." The final sentence: "Waste water from paper factories pollutes lakes, rivers and coastlines."

Earlier Nestler films such as *Mülheim, Ruhr* (1964), *Im Ruhrgebiet* (1967) and *Die Donau rauf* (1969) have become famous, and yet in this country they have remained for the most part unknown. His report on neo-Fascism in this country was withdrawn by Swedish television two days before it was due to be broadcast, and it was not available for the Hamburg Film Festival either. One wonders whether Nestler will be able to work in this country again and have his films shown here.

On the last night of the Festival the Abaton cinema was almost empty for the most stirring film: *One Parallel Movie* with scenes by Jean Luc Godard for his American film project of 1968 and scenes by D. A. Pennebaker about Godard on set with Tom Hayden, Rip Torn, Leroi Jones, Eldridge Cleaver, the Jefferson Airplane and his cameraman Richard Leacock.

Godard never finished the film. Leacock and Pennebaker got the material together. It is a horrifying fulth of a film, a total disaster and an awful iconoclastic job on Godard as a political film director. This film is due to be shown soon in independent cinemas.

Wolf Donner

(Die Zeit, 8 June 1973)

■ EDUCATION

Proficiency examinations – the new route into university

Politicians are never short of catch-phrases or trendy slogans when, according to party affiliation, they praise or attack the education system in the Federal states.

We can see how serious their statements are when it comes to university entrance. Universities no longer close their doors today to students who leave school without their Abitur, or school-leaving certificate.

Evening classes, correspondence courses and other opportunities open to persons who have left school have already opened the way to university or other institutes of further education for a large number of students.

But there is no sense forcing all would-be students to attend evening classes or join correspondence courses. This policy would cost a good deal of time and energy.

Some of these would-be students would indeed find it a waste of time to catch up on their Abitur. In many cases it is therefore more sensible to make them sit the "proficiency examination" – often called the suitability test or special examination – to check that they have the necessary qualifications and abilities for attending courses of further education.

The proficiency examination is designed for those would-be students who possess an appropriate all-round education and whose personality, intellectual capabilities and past performances make them appear suitable candidates for a course of study in a subject with which they are already acquainted.

Most Federal states demand a completed course of career training. Applicants must be older than 25 and younger than forty. Bremen and Lower Saxony also allow 21-year-olds to sit the examination in exceptional circumstances.

All Federal states are agreed on questions of principle up to this point. It is where the details are concerned that federalism once again runs riot in the field of education.

The demands placed on would-be students by the proficiency examinations vary. The unfortunate outcome of this is that all the CDU/CSU-governed Federal states plus Hamburg do not recognise the Bremen proficiency examination and refuse to accept those applicants tested in the city.

Indeed, the idea behind the proficiency examination in Bremen is far removed form that held by the other Federal states. When testing general and specialised knowledge, Bremen places far less emphasis on purely memorised facts than on the way applicants deal with material. "Students must be capable of discussing questions of human coexistence and their own position in society," the city's education authority explains.

The applicant must also be able to express their ideas in generally understandable oral and written form. Other Federal states demand considerably more – students must display skill and adroitness in their oral and written usage of the German language.

Only Lower Saxony and Berlin pursue a similar course to Bremen in their examination of proficiency. The Berlin examination regulations state: "Questions that could be answered by means of memorised material are inadmissable."

The first batch of students sat the proficiency examination in Bremen in 1972. Of the original 340 applicants 265 were allowed to sit the examination and 210 of them passed. A total of 1,147 applications have already been received this year.

It is no coincidence that half of these applicants do not come from Bremen. The examination is tougher in other Federal states and the success rate lower. Only 535 applicants passed the examination of proficiency throughout the whole of the Federal Republic in 1969 and 1970.

Nobody passed in Schleswig-Holstein, only six in the Saar and ten in Baden-Württemberg. The highest pass rates were recorded in Bavaria with 205 successes and Bremen with 89.

Only 35 students in North Rhine-Westphalia attended courses of higher education after taking the examination of proficiency in 1972. The Academic Examination Bureau in Bonn, the body responsible for the examination in North Rhine-Westphalia, believes that this number is high enough.

"The examination should be seen as a reward for those students who have already displayed some academic merit. It must not be looked upon as a cheap substitute for evening classes or correspondence courses," the bureau explains.

Some time ago a television programme described the proficiency examination as an easy third way of qualifying for higher education and added no explanation. Over five hundred would-be students applied to the Academic Examination Bureau as a result – none of them were accepted.

Apart from the proficiency examination qualifying students for university entry (except in Lower Saxony), some Federal states organise similar examinations – dubbed special examinations or suitability tests – allowing students to study a specific subject at university level – usually education. The success rate is normally higher where these examinations are concerned, though standards are normally lower.

The courses described as the "Abitur-Holder course" (by Old... University) or as bridging courses ... comprehensive universities in D... Essen, Paderborn, Siegen and Wupp... are a new feature.

These courses are designed ... allow members of underprivileged ... groups to gain access to univers... college education. The first 75 p... pants were drawn out of a hal... persons had originally applied.

There is one other way of ... university without taking the school... ing examination – by graduating f... advanced vocational college. The ... is simple and there are no restrictio... a student's further courses of study.

Apart from being able to ... whatever subject they want, most F... states make allowances for some ... period spent studying at an adv... vocational college and the qualifica... obtained there.

Regulations vary when a voca... college student wishes to leave befo... end of his course in order to study ... university. Most Federal states ... ex-vocational college students to ... university and continue studying ... subject. But there is no general agree... among the various education minis... about the time of the change and ... standards demanded.

The number of students switching ... advanced vocational colleges to unive... has grown steadily over the past few ... But it is uncertain whether ... opportunity will remain open in f...

Not long ago this course was still ... celebrated as a special achievement ... progressive education system – it is ... becoming a target for conse... politicians.

A motion was recently put forw... the Bavarian Provincial Assembly ... for a restriction on the numb... students being allowed to swit... vocational college to university.

Professor Gerd Roellecke, head o... Vice-Chancellors Conference, has ... called for certain restrictions and ... meeting in Berlin in May the Acad... Council demanded tighter controls.

Kurt-Jürgen ...

(Die Zeit, 8 Ju...)

Karlsruhe court upholds professors' powers

Schemes to give professors, students and non-academic staff an equal share in decision-making at universities can be abandoned now that the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe has upheld a complaint raised by academic staff.

As with so many court rulings on political issues, the verdict has done far more than just support the professors' claims in a primarily legal case.

The verdict reached at Karlsruhe does not mean that the old-style professorial university will be restored. The State still has the right to introduce vital reforms corresponding to the changes in social conditions.

The "group university" still conforms to Basic Law – the Federal Republic's constitution – but the outcome of the battle for a broader distribution of decision-making is that one specific group will be privileged.

University teachers who have qualified as lecturers or hold similar posts in either the teaching or research side of university life have a right to see their teaching or research activities protected. They cannot be outvoted on university bodies. In cases of doubt quality is given priority over equality.

No sooner had the court reached its verdict than criticism began. The assistant lecturers and students do not want to accept a state of affairs similar to conditions before the student rebellion of 1968.

The Constitutional Court's verdict – set out, with explanations, in a 130-page document – does not mean that the battle at the universities has ended. But future clashes will have to take the court's decision into account.

Politicians will now have to act. University laws specifying the composition of Senate, faculty and departmental committees will have to be revised as the main point of the professors' protest revolved around the powers of the various groups on decision-making bodies.

Some four hundred professors issued an appeal to the Federal Constitutional Court against legislation passed by the Lower Saxony Provincial Assembly on 26 October 1971.

The law, which was to remain in force until the Lower Saxony Education Ministry under Peter von Oertzen issued a comprehensive university law, ruled that the faculty committees for instance would consist of twelve university teachers, six academic staff, six students and three other staff. Under this scheme the professors could be outvoted at any time.

The Constitutional Court upheld the State's right to decide the administrative form of universities according to the prevailing social and academic conditions but ruled that the basic right of free academic activity must not be violated.

The Court therefore upheld the appeal of the professors who pointed out that their right of free academic activity was guaranteed by Article Five Paragraph Three of Basic Law.

Besides confirming this general principle, the majority of judges presiding over the case gave advice on how this legal guarantee should be phrased. They suggested that university teachers should retain their decisive influence over questions of university teaching. The best way to do this would be to grant them half the votes on decision-making bodies.

They must be able to exert even more influence on questions of research, the Court ruled. Granting non-academic staff a share in decision-making was inappropriate, the judges added.

Two judges disagreed with this majority verdict. They did not disagree with the general principle behind the verdict but thought the individual recommendations went too far. They claim that it is not the responsibility of the Constitutional Court to provide exact definiton of the professors' position of precedence on university bodies.

Lower Saxony's Education Minister, Peter von Oertzen, judged the Court's decision favourably, claiming that it on the whole confirmed his own views and approved of the "group university".

His statement was meant as a rebuff to the Lower Saxony branch of the CDU which claimed that the Court's ruling had inflicted a crushing defeat on the Social Democrats' university policy.

The outlines of future political ... on this issue have become clear duri... current controversy. The reformists ... want a greater share of decision-mak... universities will interpret the moder... conservative verdict as favourable to ... cause, even though they will not be ... to ignore the basic decision taken by ... judges. But despite this verdict there ... still be plenty of room for manoeuv... provincial assemblies and the univers... themselves.

Whatever developments follow ... future, the university laws will have ... amended in the Federal states ... Hamburg, Bremen, Baden-Württemb... North Rhine-Westphalia and Hesse.

The central government's own fr... work university law which avoids ... definiton of each group's voting po... in favour of a general ruling ... draft will now contain more bi... recommendations.

This is the only way to pre... university policy in the Federal Rep... being divided depending on wheth... particular Federal state is governed ... Social Democrats and Free Democra... the one hand or the CDU and CSU on ... other.

Clashes will not cease to occur b... Constitutional Court's verdict on ... sion-making is important as it settle... major point being discussed at univer... today. Before introducing any chan... this sector in future – or in any ... social sector for that matter – poli... will have to decide whether they co... to Basic Law.

Wolfgang ...

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntag... 10 June 19...)

■ MEDICINE

People eat too much of the wrong thing, experts claim

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

[N]utritional science is not only expected to conduct research into nutritional problems facing those vast ...ions of the globe suffering famine. It ...t also help to adapt the range of food ...ilable to people's requirements.

Dietetics in this broader sense of the ...m is everybody's concern – it should ... of interest not only to doctors and ...tients. The sixth International Dietetics Congress in Hanover discussed this topic ... length and also turned to the problems ...volved in training dieticians.

At present there is still a world shortage of fully-trained dieticians. There are three thousand dieticians and nutritional advisers in the Federal Republic but at least ten thousand are needed, State Secretary Heinz Westphal from the Health Ministry told the congress. Even this number will not be sufficient if essential large-scale corrective measures are to be taken.

The rapid changes in living and working conditions in our industrial society demand nutrition with fewer calories than were once needed, though it must at least contain the same essential foodstuffs.

The essential substances are those that the body cannot form on its own and the organism must receive them in the food supply. They include practically all proteins, amino-acids as well as certain unsaturated adipose acids, vitamins and the large number of chemical elements which the organism needs in order to function.

Professor Isaksson of Göteborg University, Sweden, estimates that all the essential foodstuffs are contained in a mixed diet amounting to 2,500 to 3,000 calories a day.

If the calory intake is reduced to two thirds of this total – which is vital today – the amount of essential foodstuffs is also reduced, resulting in a shortage of urgently needed substances.

Total food consumption cannot simply be cut in this way. Dietary measures of this type are only possible in rare cases. there must be a real medical need for them and a doctor must always be in charge of treatment of this kind. Besides, much food today only contains negligible quantities of essential substances.

Many people eat wrongly as a result. Though they always have their plates overloaded with food, they still suffer a shortage of some of the most vital substances. Professor W. Wirths of the Max Planck Institute for Nutritional Physiology in Dortmund has described the consequences in the *Ernahrungs-Umschau* (No 5, 1973).

The elderly, especially those living alone, often eat far too much fat and not enough vitamin C, calcium, iron and vitamin B. Any person going on a diet not prescribed by a doctor also suffers a shortage of protein, vitamins and other essential foodstuffs.

Many popular beliefs about the organism's needs must be revised, delegates in Hanover were told. This applies above all to those minimal quantities of chemical substances that are an indispensable factor in the functioning of many of the body's enzymes. But information is still scarce in this sector.

The amount of essential foodstuffs contained in nutrition is not the only decisive factor. There is also the question of whether or not they are changed in any way through preservatives or preparation, resulting in an unsuspected shortage of vital supplies to the organism.

Critical analysis of daily nutritional requirements and the amounts actually consumed will probably reveal further surprising information. It was repeatedly suggested at Hanover that no change in diet will fully compensate lack of exercise.

Metabolism mystery

Experiments, so far conducted on animals only, suggest that physical activity, that is use of the muscles, causes a qualitative change in the organism's metabolism and that it is only this change in the metabolism that provides the stimulus for all the body's functions.

Exercise is therefore as important to health as compensation for nutritional deficiencies. The consequences of the lack of exercise now commonly observed will only be completely obvious in the generation at present in adolescence. This generation has been accustomed to a relatively passive existence all its life.

Dr Werner Pfeiffer

(Der Tagesspiegel, 10 June 1973)

Doctors call for measures to reduce fat content in food

Frankfurter Rundschau

A press office run by doctors, dentists and chemists in Baden-Württemberg has called for legislation to cut the amount of fat contained in foodstuffs and oblige manufacturers to state the calory content in the most important foods.

A statement issued by the press bureau claimed that few people today could avoid putting on extra weight without adequate information about the food they eat.

A survey conducted by Stuttgart University's department of nutritional physiology revealed that the per capita consumption of fat in the Federal Republic reached a record high of 140.3 grammes a day in 1971 and 1972.

The daily per capita consumption of carbohydrates dropped to 352.1 grammes over the same period, confirming the general medical view that the alarming rise in excess weight and the resulting drop in life expectancy is due primarily to excessive consumption of fat.

Inhabitants of the Federal Republic consumed a daily average of 2,999 calories in 1971 and 1972. To this total must be added the 170 calories resulting from consumption of alcohol.

Assuming that a person doing light manual work requires 2,500 calories a day, consuming 140.3 grammes of fat takes care of half the number of calories needed. But fat should make up no more than one third of the total calory supply.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 June 1973)

■ OUR WORLD

Tall people's association agitates for more consideration

DIE ZEIT

The "Big People" of this country are in despair because they are getting the short end of the stick. Heinz-Jürgen Preuss, chairman of this country's 2,300-strong giants club, has produced a survey of this distressing situation using data collected from the Baltic to the Alps.

Herr Preuss, a technician from Dortmund and in his association quite a small fellow with only 1.98 metres in height said that big people have problems in every direction.

Herr Preuss, 30, said: "For oversize people everything is very expensive. It begins with the purchase of clothing and goes on to furnishing the home."

Speaking for his fellow large colleagues Herr Preuss said: "We are treated as society's stepchildren. We are continuously at a disadvantage. Clothes are costly, taking up almost 35 per cent of a person's income. And it is impossible to be modern, up-to-date in what a large person wears."

Herr Preuss said: "Most clothes a tall person wears have to be tailor-made – buying off the peg is quite out of the question for most items. If a manufacturer specialises in clothing for tall people he has a monopoly position and can charge what he likes."

In order to agitate for more consideration in society tall people have been organised for the past twenty years in a nation-wide association.

Basic measurements have been laid down for club members – for women 1.80 metres and for men 1.90. Without shoes, of course.

People who have these minimum measurements, and most of the club members are considerably taller, join the association so that they can form a common front to agitate for more consideration and better living conditions.

It is not easy to be a tall person. If a person has more inches, or centimetres, than most he is wide open for nicknames such as "Lofty" or even "Shorty". Seeking revenge for this derision tall people are likely to call their tormentors "Garden dwarfs" or "German gnomes".

But for all their height tall people are fearful of the aggressive attitudes they encounter from their smaller fellow citizens. They suffer for their greater size.

Herr Preuss said: "The women suffer the most. In our association the tallest is registered at 2.16 metres. If a tall girl goes to a dance she usually has to play the part of a wallflower. If a man has the courage to ask her to dance he rarely summons up that courage a second time."

Men also have difficulties in their relations with those around them who are shorter. (The tallest man in the Big People's Association is 2.38 metres in height, the tallest man in the Federal Republic and Europe.)

Troubles usually begin when a young man joins the Army to do his military service and is lined up before the sergeant-major for the first time. Comments are bound to be made in front of the smaller recruits.

Complexes caused by these situations can be neutralised in the club, according to Herr Preuss. But it is not so easy to get rid of bad feelings elsewhere.

Herr Preuss has denounced these prejudices in his survey. He complains that desks for tall people are hopeless usually unless telephone books are put under the legs to make them higher. Beds and bed clothing can only be obtained from specialist suppliers and there is usually many months' delivery delay. Tall people cannot go into the lighting section of a department store because they are likely to bump into the lights, break them and then have to pay for them.

Herr Preuss said: "Everywhere we go we have to go with our heads down because we are so frightened of knocking something down."

The list of complaints that tal. people have is endless. When a tall person checks into a hotel he has to take a double room to have enough room to move around in and sleep peacefully. If a tall person has to be admitted to hospital a paper war has to be waged before the patient can get a super-bed to lie in.

Problems occur in city transport, aeroplanes and motor cars. Herr Preuss said: "Motor cars are not built for tall people. If a tall person wants to drive a car either the rear seat has to be used or the front seat has to be pushed so far back there is no room for passengers on the rear seats." He added: "To alter this all costs money, of course." The same problems occur in trains and planes. Tall people can only take advantage of their height once a year – at Christmas. The greatest aim of all tall people, tax easements, has yet to be achieved, but their association endlessly agitates for this. Herr Preuss' survey should help to bring sympathetic attention to the tall person's plight.

R. Callmann

(Die Zeit, 8 June 1973)



Erhard Weller, over eight feet tall, claims to be the tallest ma[n in] Europe (Photo: Helmut [...])



Stuffed animal thefts

A mysterious series of thefts from the Alexander König zoological museum in Bonn have puzzled the authorities. The thief specialises in stuffed animals.

Any number of the show cases that were filled with items from mounted butterflies to mammoth are now empty.

The cases were opened with a skeleton key and the police believe that the thief is a specialist whose booty finds its way to America for private collections.

Professor Ernst von Lehmann of the Museum said: "It is also possible that a fanatical collector from somewhere in the neighbourhood is enriching his collection in this way."

The thefts began a few weeks ago when a nest of crocodil eggs disappeared. The other items that have vanished include some prehistoric exhibits valued at over 1,000 Marks.

(Welt am Sonntag, 3 June 1973)

Otto Lilienthal – a daring man with a flying machine

He was one of the first German entrepreneurs to introduce the concept of profit-sharing with his workers, he developed a fog-horn that in his time was obligatory equipment for coastal vessels, he developed a sand box for children to play in which is in use to this day and he wrote a play. But all this had nothing to do with making the name Otto Lilienthal a household word.

He was born in Anklan, Pomerania 125 years ago. He "taught man flying" as Ferdinand Ferber, a French contemporary and also a pioneer of flight wrote.

Along with the younger brother, Gustav, who later became his close associate, he constructed at the gates of his home town a flying model that maintained its flight with muscle power.

When Otto returned from the Franco-Prussian war he and his brother experimented with various apparatus where they had then set up shop. They discovered that a forward velocity was needed to obtain and sustain flight and in 1874 that convex surfaces are efficient for flying.

In order to make a living the Li[lienthal] brothers had to break off their [...] and it was not until 1888 that [they were] able to resume their work. In 18[89 a] book appeared, *Bird flight as a b[asis of] the art of flying* in which Otto Li[lienthal] reported on the studies he had [made so] far.

By 1890 the brothers had got [beyond] theoretical speculation. They wa[nted] to test their apparatus, made of [...] wood and laquered cotton wool. [In] their garden from heights one to [...]tres up decide them. In the autum[n they] made several trial leaps into the wi[nd from] the Sitzberg near Werder. Becaus[e of an] injured hip Gustav was unable to [take] part in further attempts to fly. I[n leaps] from heights five to six metres up [he was] able to sail on the wind distances [of] 25 metres.

In 1893 Lilienthal was so sure [he] had made real progress in his de[velop]ment of his flying apparatus [that he] applied for a patent in Germany, [...] and America.

A year later Lilienthal had a 15 [...] artificial hill made at his small ma[chine] factory in Lichterfelde, near Berlin. [Here] he continued with his flying trials [and] showed off his apparatus to visitors.

As he was only able to 'fly' [a] maximum of one hundred me[tres in] Lichterfelde, he moved to the Gollenb[erg] in the Rhinower hills where [...] conditions attracted him. Here he [was] able to achieve flights of 350 me[tres] distance.

Otto Lilienthal knew nothing of th[e] machines powered by fuel that fle[w on] their own velocity, independent of [the] power of the wind.

On 9 August Otto Lilienthal [was] injured when a gust of wind caught [him] and his apparatus on the Gollenberg. [He] died the next evening from these inj[uries].

Otto Lilienthal made a conside[rable] contribution to flying. The inscriptio[n on] his gravestone at the cemetery [in] Lichterfelde has launched him into [the] world of legend. The stone [says:] "Sacrifices have to be made."

Klaus Müller

(Die Welt, 23 May 1[973])

Otto Lilienthal trying to fly

(Photo: Historia)

SPORT

Günter Netzer, profile of a football pro

[Gün]ter Netzer, captain of Borussia [Mön]chengladbach, will be playing for Real [Ma]drid next season. Neither club is [prep]ared to disclose details of the transfer but in the event of a transfer within [this] country Netzer was last estimated to [have] a market value of 1.8 million Marks.

[Gü]nter Netzer hit sympathetic head[l]ines despite the news of his transfer [to] Real Madrid and his inability to play [for] this country against Brazil in Berlin, [the] reason being the sudden death of his [mo]ther.

Barbara Netzer, who owned a grocer's [sh]op in Mönchengladbach, died as a result [of] two successive strokes. There was a [fee]ling of genuine sympathy with Günter, [an]d not merely because he is an ace football player who is continually in the [li]melight.

Günter Netzer is a football star who is [a]t the same time mysterious and [se]lfcontradictory. He really is an [ex]ception in the business.

Seventy per cent of the general public, [4]5 million people in this country when all is said and done, know who he is, and that is more than can be said for most public figures.

Günter Netzer was born on 14 September 1944, has been capped 31 times, earns more money than any other player under contract to Borussia Mönchengladbach, his home town's Federal league club, has the largest feet in Federal league football (size 47, corresponding to English size 14 and US size 15), boasts the longest hair of any professional footballer in this country and, last but not least, has signed a contract to play for Real Madrid starting next season.

This top-secret transaction affected three people closest to him most, his mother, his girlfriend Hannelore Girulat and DFB chief coach and national team trainer Helmut Schön, the man who always made it up with Netzer despite their many squabbles.

Those days now seem to be over. Schön has finally given Netzer up. "There is," he says, "apparently a clause in his contract with Real Madrid allowing him to take part in any game for which he is required by this country, but I rather fancy nothing will come of it in practice."

Netzer has often taken lone and shock decisions. Prior to the 1970 World Cup competition, for instance, he responded to criticism by national coach Helmut Schön by announcing that he would never again play for his country.

Suddenly celebrated as a rebel, he came to terms with Schön after all but eventually was unable to play in Mexico because of an injury.

Troubles such as these are characteristic of Netzer, an awkward man who makes life difficult for both himself and his friends. But his friends have always forgiven him, convinced as they are by his astonishing talent with the football that Netzer is a genius.

Netzer himself has always fostered the impression, claiming, for instance, that during a game he draws lines across the pitch in his mind's eye and kicks the ball along these imaginary lines.

This certainly fits the image of a player who combines professional capability on the field of play and playboy allures off it, a star who combines level-headed business acumen and a tendency to daydream.

His is an unusual image, for a sporting star at least, and both he and his girlfriend Hannelore Girulat have devoted time and thought to its cultivation.

Many of his fellow-players take care to [liv]e as is expected of men dedicated to football, but Netzer dons pop gear and not only plunges headlong into the nightlife of swinging Munich but also gets away with it.

Then there are the periods when he does not play particularly well for his club and takes rather a long time to recuperate from his many injuries.

Only his closest associates are more than suspicious that there is a connection between these and the time he devotes to his discotheque Lovers' Lane, his restaurant La Laque, an advertising agency, the Mönchengladbach club magazine and his work as a representative for a number of sports equipment manufacturers.

Netzer has worked tirelessly, it is unquestionably true, on his business sidelines. Only a few months ago he consulted Munich manager Robert Schwan, who looks after the interests of Bayern captain Franz Beckenbauer.

Schwan planned to harness Beckenbauer and Netzer as an exclusive duo in advertising, plans that nearly involved the two players in serious trouble with the Football Association.

What Schwan had in mind was a pair of football-playing cartoon figures named Ramba and Zamba. They bore a striking resemblance to Tip and Tap, the World Cup mascots, with whom, of course, they would have competed but their facial resemblance to Netzer and Beckenbauer was even more striking!

This project never left the drawing-board, but Netzer will not be unduly woried. He must net a good 400,000 Marks a year from his various business sidelines.

On leaving for Spain he will doubtless leave his business interests in this country in the capable hands of girlfriend Hannelore, yet she claimed to be as surprised as Günter's mother, national coach Schön and officials of his club on hearing the news that he had signed up with Real Madrid.

Netzer seems to be cursed with an inevitable penchant for gravely disappointing his nearest and dearest. The result is that he has a great many fans but few really close friends.

He was never on the best of terms with his club coach Hennes Weisweiler and his team-mates. Netzer was a great and towering figure in the world of football, but a lonely one.

Ulfert Schröder

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 16 June 1973)



Günter Netzer (Photo: Nordbild)

World Cup preparations in full swing

On 13 June 1974 President Heinemann will inaugurate at Waldstadion, Frankfurt, the greatest football spectacular ever to take place in this country. With twelve months to go it is already apparent that the tenth association football World Cup will be a record-breaker.

Never have so many countries entered teams for the qualifying rounds. Ninety-eight entries from a total of 141 countries in which soccer is organised are in the running.

Never has so much money been spent in preparation for a World Cup. New grounds and improvements to existing facilities will have cost some 250 million Marks, and the organisers will, by the time they have finished, also have spent roughly 22 million Marks.

Never has the final round comprised so many fixtures – 38 games as against 32 in Mexico – held at so many different venues (nine).

DFB, the Federal Republic Football Association, is hoping that two million spectators will pass through the turnstiles, paying some forty million Marks at the gate. In Mexico the total crowd numbered 1,670,000, so this too would be a new record.

Let no one think the World Cup is not big news. Already, with twelve months to go, the girl at the switchboard of the Frankfurt World Cup head offices (newly built at a cost of five million Marks) receives fifty-odd calls a day from all over the world.

From now on the top men of the organising committee, President Hermann Neuberger, World Cup director Hermann Joch, his deputy Hans Lang and PRO Dr Wilfried Gerhardt, will have precious little time for their homes and families.

"So far everything has gone exactly to schedule," Dr Gerhardt claims, and Karl-Hermann Zobel, head of the publications department, adds that "this will be a World Cup run for professionals by professionals."

The most impressive indication so far that this is no idle boast is the fact that there have been no real mishaps since the organising committee was set up in 1968, two years after this country's bid to host the World Cup was given the go-ahead in England.

The difficulties that have occurred, frequently financial, have been settled without much ado, as were irregularities in advance ticket sales, which are now proceeding splendidly.

So far only tickets for the cup final, to be held on 7 July in Munich's Olympic Stadium, have been sold out, but the DFB also expects full houses at the opening game in Frankfurt, featuring Cup-holders Brazil, the match to decide third place and all fixtures of the home team.

The organising committee is working on the basis of seventy-per-cent capacity at first-round games and eighty per cent at second-round fixtures, which would amount to an average of 77 per cent.

By way of comparison, 81.8 per cent capacity was achieved in Mexico and 78.7 per cent of tickets were sold in England.

This play-off between the sixteen best football-playing countries in the world will also set up new records for media coverage and logistics. The World Cup will be covered by 2,000 newspapermen, 1,000 radio and TV commentators, 800 photographers and technicians.

More than 600 applications from thirty countries have already been made to the organising committee, the most ambitious applicant so far being the Brazilian sports magazine *Placar*, which plans to cover next year's World Cup with fifteen staff writers and six photographers.

It stands to reason, of course, that publicity is being writ large. Tip and Tap, the two cartoon kids who are the official symbol of the 1974 World Cup, are not faring as badly as initial criticism might have suggested, having already outsold Waldi, the dachshund symbol of the Munich Olympics.

Then there is the four-language World Cup poster, selling at 9.50 DM, and any number of souvenirs, ranging from a World Cup trumpet for the well-equipped fan to a suggested poster featuring a football-playing grandmother.

By no means all the publicity suggestions have met with official approval, let it be added, and a fair number of them are not what you might call in good taste.

As regards the participants only two of the sixteen countries are already

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definitely earmarked: the reigning champions Brazil and the host country.

In European Zone 1 Hungary has fallen by the wayside after a 3 - 3 draw against Sweden. With a final game against Malta to win Sweden stands to top the zonal tables ahead of Austria.

Italy, the runner-up in Mexico, needs only to win at home against the disappointing Swiss team, which so far has scored only one goal in 270 minutes, and that against Luxenbourg, to qualify.

Having blotted its copy-book with a disgraceful 2 - 0 defeat in Poland England needs to win the return match, particularly as tiny Wales are doing well at the top of the zonal table.

The prospects are good for two more countries that have been out of the running since 1958: Scotland and Holland.

The Scots need only take home two points from two games against Czechoslovakia to qualify, the Czechs having dropped a clanger in drawing with Denmark. Holland is level-pegging with Belgium, but has home games, a better goal average and the stars of Ajax Amsterdam in its favour.

The Eastern Bloc will probably be represented by four teams next year. In addition to Hungary, Bulgaria (currently three points ahead of Portugal), Yugoslavia (with only a home game against Spain left to play) and, for the first time ever, the GDR are the likely candidates.

The GDR team can still maintain its lead under its own steam. The 1 - 0 defeat at the hands of Rumania in Bucharest no longer matters.

The South American countries will doubtless play a major role again. Peru or Chile could quite well oust the USSR in the qualifying encounters and ex-World Cup-winners Uruguay and Argentina face such relatively feeble opposition that they are odds-on favourites to qualify.

Even Mexico, the host of the 1970 World Cup, ought to qualify, facing opposition merely from countries such as Guatemala and Trinidad.

It remains to be seen who will represent Africa, where twelve countries seem equally well placed to make the running. The final participant will represent either Asia or the Pacific. Two qualifying games have yet to be played between Australia and South Korea.

So the likely competitors in next year's association football World Cup are this country, Brazil, Hungary, Italy, Holland, the GDR, England, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Scotland, Peru, Uruguay, Argentina, Mexico, an African country and Australia.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 17 June 1973)